

## Portfolio £42,000 to be won

A total of £42,000 is available to be won today in The Times Portfolio competition: the weekly prize of £20,000 is doubled because it was not won last week, and there is also the daily prize of £2,000. Yesterday's £2,000 was won by Mr George Woolner of Maidenhead, Berkshire. Portfolio list, page 20, weekly prize list information service, back page.

## Aids inquest warned of more deaths

More babies in Britain are likely to contract Aids, an inquest on a boy aged 21 months was told at St Pancras, London.

The coroner was told that the child had received blood transfusions in the United States. Page 3

## Russia scorned

Albania has rejected Moscow's message of condolences on the death of Enver Hoxha and returned the telegram, the Albanian embassy in Vienna said. Moscow warned, page 6

## Artist dies



John Gilroy, the artist and poster designer, who introduced the toucan and the man holding a giraffe to Guinness advertisements, has died in Guildford, Surrey. He was 86. Obituary, page 10

## Back to jail

An American judge refused to clear Gary Dotson, jailed six years ago for rape, although his victim said she had made the whole thing up. Page 4

## Oil go-ahead

Dorset councillors agreed to allow BP to drill for oil on Furze Island in Poole harbour. Environmental groups are to object. Page 2

## Space senator

The space shuttle Discovery blasted off into orbit from the Kennedy Space Centre carrying the first senator to orbit the Earth. Page 5

## Election killing

A man was beaten to death with stones and clubs in a clash between rival political groups in Lima as Peru's presidential election campaign closed. Youthful challenger, page 7

## Sudan pledge

Sudan's new military rulers have agreed to hand over power to an elected civilian government after 12 months' transition, a decision regarded as a compromise. Page 5

## Ten-year coma

Karen Quinlan, subject of a famous 1976 court case, has now been in a coma for a decade. Leading article, page 9

## Lyle shoots 65

Sandy Lyle followed a first round 78 with a 65, just outside the course record, to avoid the cut in the US Masters at Augusta. Page 22

## Davies retires

Garth Davies, the Cardiff stand-off half, announced his retirement from international rugby, the third Wales captain to do so this season. Page 24

## Leader page 9

Letters: On the Severn Bore, from Dr M. Moore, and others; hedges, from Mr D. Barker, and Lord Kilbracken. Leading articles: Mrs Thatcher in India; Karen Quinlan; theatrical mementoes. Obituary, page 10. Mr John Gilroy, Miss Enid McLeod, the Hon Mrs Dorothy Burns.

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# No cheaper home loans despite cut in base rate

By Lorna Bourke and Peter Wilson-Smith

Building societies said yesterday there would be no early cut in mortgage rates despite the reduction in base rates by two of the big high street banks.

Barclays and Midland cut their base rates by half a percentage point to 12.75 per cent, undercutting National Westminster and Lloyds which are on 13 per cent.

They also cut the rates paid to savers. The seven-day deposit rate at Barclays goes down to 7.25 per cent and to 7 per cent at the Midland.

This will help to ease the pressure on the building societies and there is even a possibility that bank base rates could come down another notch soon.

The building societies are so short of money, however, that any cut in mortgage rates is likely to be a long way off still.

Yesterday, the Building Societies Association (BSA) announced that the net inflow of funds during March was £214 million, the lowest figure since last August when net receipts slumped to £188 million.

Mr Richard Weir, secretary-general of the BSA, said: "The decline in building society net receipts in March provides ample evidence of the need societies had to increase their rates from April 1. If societies do not pay their investors a competitive rate of interest, they will be unable to meet mortgage demand."

The societies have been suffering from the banks' introduction of high interest accounts ahead of the April 6 deadline since when banks have been obliged to deduct basic rate tax at source from interest payments.

The rises in base rates during January allowed the banks to offer these accounts at very attractive interest rates.

To cope with demand for home loans, now enjoying a strong seasonal revival, the societies need to take in around £800 million a month. But even with the new higher investment rates which came into force at the beginning of this month, they are predicting net inflows of only £400 million to £500 million this month.

Rather than allowing mortgage queues to develop, the societies have been dipping into their liquidity to meet demand for home loans.

Mortgage commitments have climbed from just over £2,000 million in February to £2,331 million in March, the highest monthly figure since last June.

To cope with this increase, societies have run down their liquidity from 17.7 per cent to 17.4 per cent.

Overall, however, the societies hope to be able to avoid queues. "Our rates are looking very competitive now and we would expect a good increase in net inflows in the coming months," Mr Mark Boleat, deputy secretary-general of the BSA, said.

Rates caution, page 11

## MP threatens legal fight on reselection

By Our Political Editor

The Labour Party has been threatened with legal action if it does not intervene in the fight between Mr Reg Fresson, and Mr Ken Livingstone, leader of the Greater London Council, for the parliamentary seat of Brent East.

Mr Fresson, who is the sitting member, has been threatened with legal action by giving the National Executive Committee until the end of next week to put a stop to the reselection procedure, which is now in full swing in Brent East, and to open an inquiry into what he alleges are the unconstitutional and improper tactics of his opponents.

His threat of legal action, and his latest dossier of complaints against Mr Livingstone's supporters, will be considered by Labour's organization committee on Monday. A canvass of the opinions of committee members yesterday indicated that his demands will be taken seriously.

If so, and if reselection, which has been arranged for April 28, is put off indefinitely, Mr Livingstone's chances of securing the Labour nomination to fight the next General Election in Mr Fresson's place, may be fatally harmed.

A meeting of the executive committee of the Brent East party, called this week to compile a shortlist of candidates, disclosed that a number of Mr Livingstone's former backers are actively contemplating withdrawing support. They regard the GLC leader as having betrayed socialism by voting last month in favour of the setting of a rate by his council in order to stay within the law.

On Thursday the full

Mr Reg Fresson: An ultimatum to party.

tion against Mr Fresson, there is now talk in their ranks of joining with Mr Fresson's remaining supporters in voting down the shortlist.

Such a step nullified the reselection procedure, whatever action the party organization may decide to take at national level. Mr Livingstone's campaign is thus in double jeopardy.

Last month Fresson announced that he would not take part in the reselection process. His local party and others assumed that he meant he was giving up the seat, but yesterday he put them right. "I intend to remain Labour MP for Brent East," he said.

## Screening for cancer reviewed

The Government is setting up a team of experts to advise on the introduction of a screening system for breast cancer, the Minister for Health, Mr Kenneth Clarke, said last night (Thomson Presswire writes).

The decision has been prompted by publication in *The Lancet* of a Swedish study into the effectiveness of an X-ray screening test.

The study, begun in 1977, showed a 31 per cent reduction in mortality from breast cancer among women over 40 offered screening every two or three years.

Mr Clarke said: "We believe this study requires us to carry out a major review of policy on the availability of mammography and its role in screening symptomatic women. We hope we can assemble such a group quickly."

## Spanish flight delays forecast

By David Nicholson-Lord

Support for Spanish pilots' criticisms of airport safety in Spain came yesterday from the international body representing pilots, which accused Spain of having postponed much-needed improvements on grounds of cost.

Captain Laurie Taylor, executive secretary of the International Federation of Airline Pilots' Associations, said Spain should "get its act together" on safety. "They should put back into their civilian air transport system some of the profits they make from tourists," he said.

Captain Taylor also forecast delays and diversions for holidaymakers travelling by air as pilots took steps to avoid the country's worst airports, particularly in bad weather.

Tourists would have to rely on the professionalism of pilots



and air-traffic controllers, he said.

Spanish controllers are threatening more industrial action in their long-running dispute with the authorities.

According to the Spanish news magazine, *Tempe*, the Spanish airline pilots' union is preparing a report listing 15 of the country's airports as "dangerous" or "very dangerous". Those in the latter category are Malaga, Madrid, Bilbao, San Sebastian, Los

Rodons in Tenerife, and Las Palmas and Hierro in the Canaries.

The Spanish Government has described the criticisms as irresponsible and the British Airline Pilots' Association says it has no serious fears. "There have been significant improvements at Spanish airports over recent years," a BALPA spokesman said yesterday.

Captain Taylor agreed that there had been improvements, partly in response to a long history of protests.

But plans to upgrade airport facilities and radar had been deferred repeatedly for economic reasons, he said. "Radar in parts of Spain just doesn't exist."

## TGWU asks for evidence to back call for new poll

By David Felton  
Labour Correspondent

Mr Moss Evans, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, has asked Mr George Wright, the defeated candidate in the leadership election, to provide evidence to support his call for fresh elections.

The election controversy is over alleged irregularities in last year's ballot. Mr Evans, who is attending a conference in Washington, told Mr Wright that any official complaints about the election would be investigated.

Mr Wright, the union's Welsh regional secretary, who was defeated by 45,000 votes in the election by Mr Ron Todd, said yesterday: "The union has already been given evidence. The problem will not go away and I believe that the only way to stop the union suffering further damage is to hold a fresh ballot as soon as possible."

Mr John Cousins, general secretary of the Clearing Bank Union, but also a member of the TGWU, said he had voted in the election for Mr Todd but he believed there was clear evidence of malpractice during the voting process. He said there should be a fresh ballot.

Mr Evans, who acted as the returning officer in the election, will return from Washington early next week to deal with the growing number of complaints about the conduct of the election. But any call for a new ballot will rest with June's quarterly meeting of the union's general executive council.

Mr Todd said it would be "totally improper for one of the five candidates to publicly respond to matters which are internal to the union. Whatever complaints people have should be the subject of submissions to the general secretary, stating each specific complaint."

The union has investigated three complaints about the ballot. Complaints involving a Kent agricultural worker and staff at a bus garage in north London were rejected. However, complaints about ballot rigging in a local government branch in Bristol were upheld and two officials were dismissed.

There are new allegations over the high level of voting in Ulster where union members have complained that they were

Continued on back page, col 6

## Kinnock accuses Thatcher of defaming Britain

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

After keeping his counsel for a week, Mr Neil Kinnock yesterday joined other prominent members of the Labour Party in reproving the Prime Minister for parading domestic political differences before her audiences in south-east Asia.

Such was her "clumsy arrogance," he said, that Mrs Thatcher was using her tour to advertise the problems and deepen hostilities she had created.

"If travelling is supposed to broaden the mind, it obviously is not working with Mrs Thatcher," Mr Kinnock said.

"As she skirts around south-east Asia like a ball on a pin table, she merely parades her prejudices and defames her own people."

No wonder she had become the Prime Minister who went just about anywhere in the world and almost nowhere in her own country.

Mr Kinnock, who was speaking in Cardiff, said that Mrs Thatcher did not show the flag but washed dirty linen. "She is not boosting Britain but bashing Britain from a safe distance."

"Mrs Thatcher sees herself as a sort of commercial traveller. That is the excuse for her trip. But success, like charity, begins at home: if she will get interest rates down, promote growth policies, provide proper support for research and training, help to get manufacturing investment back even to its 1979

levels, Britain will make it and Britain will sell it."

Mr Denis Healey joined in the fray with even more abandon at a meeting in Leeds last night. "Mrs Thatcher goes straight into the Guinness Book of records, for travelling round the world in just over a week with her foot never out of her mouth." Rhoda the rhino had never had a more ruinous rampage.

The Prime Minister had spent most of her time gloating to foreigners about what she saw as her humiliation of British trade unionists. Mr Healey said, "though she did spare a minute or two to rubbish her Cabinet colleagues like poor Sir Keith Joseph."

He described the Prime Minister's handling of foreign policy as bizarre. She had "complimented the Indonesian dictator" on his handling of Malaysia.

"No wonder the Malaysian prime minister told her he puts the Commonwealth at the bottom of his list."

Mr Healey noted that the Prime Minister committed herself to inflation "when her Chancellor says inflation will be twice as high this summer and her beloved money supply is already out of control. If that means anything it means yet another squeeze, with higher interest rates and the dole queues lengthening even faster."

## Reagan's interview upsets Tass

Moscow (Reuters) - Tass

yesterday accused the Reagan Administration of distorting and falsifying facts to hide its unwillingness to improve relations. It was commenting on an interview in yesterday's edition of *The Times* in which President Reagan accused Moscow of trying to drive a wedge between the US and Europe.

It added that Mr Reagan had ignored Moscow's call to take a sensible stance on the Soviet medium-range missiles moratorium announced on Sunday. Washington has dismissed the freeze as inadequate.

## Sakharov ultimatum to Academy

By Iain Elliot

Dr Andrei Sakharov, the leading advocate of human rights in the Soviet Union, will resign from the Soviet Academy of Sciences, cutting his last link with the establishment, unless his fellow academicians give him and his wife, Elena Bonner, greater support by May 10.

The couple live in almost complete isolation; last year she was exiled to Gorky, 250 miles east of Moscow, an closed to foreigners. Recently she had emergency medical treatment for a heart condition, according to reports reaching Mr Yefrem Yankelevich, one of the organizers of this week's International Sakharov Hearing in London.

Mr Yankelevich, a Soviet dissident who emigrated to the United States in 1977, is the husband of Tatiana, Mrs Bonner's daughter by her first marriage. He says that Dr Sakharov's threat to resign could only be an act of last resort to save his wife's life by securing special treatment, if necessary abroad.

Dr Sakharov, now 63, became an academician at 32 because of his work on the hydrogen bomb. His threat to resign puts considerable pressure on the Soviet leadership.

On Thursday evening, after Soviet dissidents and Western experts had concluded their testimony to the London Sakharov Hearing, the international panel issued a resolution calling on participants of next month's Ottawa conference of the 35 states which signed the 1975 Helsinki "deplorable trend in Soviet human rights policies" since the late 1970s. The panel also urged the restoration of the Sakharov's rights.

## Tribute by Howe to slain priest

From Roger Boyes  
Warsaw

Sir Geoffrey Howe last night paid homage at the grave of the pro-Solidarity priest, Father Jerzy Popieluszka, only hours after urging General Jaruzelski to free political prisoners in Poland.

After a reception at the residence of the British Ambassador, where he met Solidarity advisers, including Professor Bronislaw Geremek, Mr Janusz Onyszkiewicz.

Sir Geoffrey slipped out of the crowd and was driven to the church of St Stanislaw Koska, in the north of the capital.

Some ministers invited to the reception did not appear, seemingly because they objected to the presence of representatives of the outlawed Solidarity trade union.

But the authorities did not impede the Foreign Secretary as he wended his way through the mountain of wreaths and Solidarity banners that adorn the grave of the priest, who was murdered by secret policemen.

Some opposition sources in Warsaw speculated that a member of the Foreign Secretary's entourage might meet Mr Lech Walesa, chairman of Solidarity, but diplomats firmly denied this possibility.

At the meeting with General Jaruzelski, which lasted an unusual 2½ hours Sir Geoffrey raised specific cases of abuses of human rights as well as discussing the arms control position of Nato and the Warsaw Pact.

The case of a number of activists awaiting a trial in Gdansk, including a leading dissident, Mr Adam Michnik, was raised by the Foreign Secretary, General Jaruzelski, according to sources, replied that he wanted no political prisoners in Poland. However, he did not raise the prospect of an amnesty and spoke only broadly about strengthening democracy in his country.

The talks were said to have been candid and without aggression, although the Polish leader sharply criticized western sanctions against Poland.

Human rights have emerged as a central theme in the Foreign Secretary's tour of East Germany, Czechoslovakia and Poland. The official Polish view of Sir Geoffrey's visit was eloquently expressed by the censor, who deleted key phrases about human rights from the published version of his Thursday banquet speech. A reference to his anxiety about reports of a tougher line in Warsaw was chopped out of all newspapers.

Yesterday Sir Geoffrey met Mr Jozef Cyrtek, a Politburo member sometimes tipped as a successor to General Jaruzelski as party chief. Sir Geoffrey raised his concern about human rights and Western fears that Poland would crack down further on Solidarity activists.

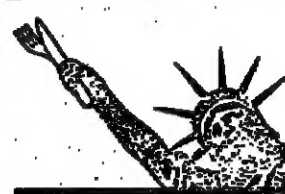
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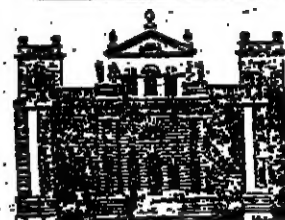
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### MONDAY

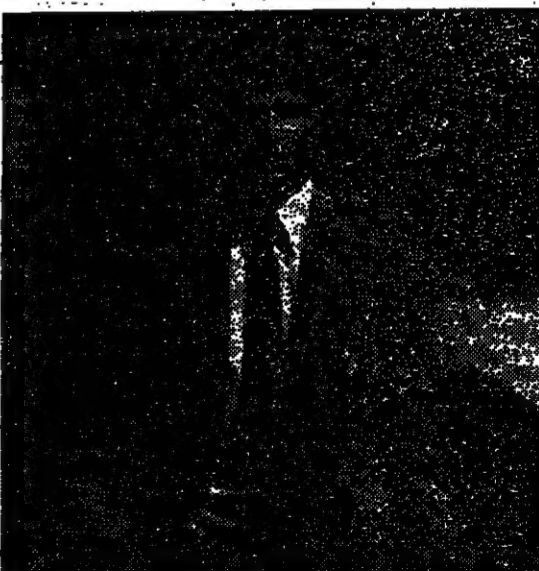


Stately homes under siege  
3-part series on Britain's heritage



The couple who met in Belsen  
A love story from the holocaust

Matters of public concern  
Reforming the House of Lords



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Edgbaston

THE PRIVATE TREATMENT CENTRE FOR DRINK-RELATED PROBLEMS

FREEPHONE 100



# BP wins right to drill in Dorset despite protests from conservationists

By John Young and Jonathan Davis

Environmental groups expressed unanimous dismay at yesterday's decision by Dorset County Council's planning sub-committee to allow BP to drill for oil on Furzey Island, in Poole harbour.

The Nature Conservancy Council and the National Trust have asked Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the environment, to "call in" BP's application for his own decision.

Furzey Island is on the Wytch Farm field discovered in 1973. It is the largest onshore oil discovery in Britain. Its estimated recoverable reserves are at least 200 million barrels, and it is so far the only onshore field to compare in size with any of the North Sea fields.

Part of the field lies under the Dorset mainland, but a large part of the two reservoirs stretch out under Poole harbour, and also into the Channel. Present production is about 6,000 barrels a day, and BP's aim is to increase that to at least 40,000 barrels a day by the late 1980s. It plans to spend more than £200 million on the development.

However, objections to the scheme have 21 days in which to appeal against the decision.

Mr Angus Stirling, director general of the National Trust, which owns nearby Brownsea Island, said last night: "We are not satisfied that the consequences of oil drilling and extraction in this area have been adequately tested and subjected to independent scrutiny. We remain unconvinced by the argument by BP that drilling in this highly sensitive area will have no adverse effects."

Friends of the Earth said the decision meant that any location in the south of England could now face oil or gas exploration with little or no regard to its environmental importance.



Mr Jenkin: Asked to rule on the decision.

The group had written to Mr Jenkin asking for a public inquiry, and would also be making a complaint to the Local Government Ombudsman over the way that the county council had dealt with its objections.

Mr Kneale Johnson, BP's project director for Wytch Farm, said after yesterday's decision: "We are very pleased to have obtained this permission. It is obviously an important milestone in the life of the oil field, and will enable us to press ahead with the entire scheme." BP said it was particularly encouraged that the decision had been reached by a 19 to 3 majority.

The 34 conditions attached by the council to yesterday's approval will not cause any unexpected delays to the development, BP said, although the timetable for developing the field to its full potential assumes less rapid progress than the oil companies had originally intended.

The council has told BP it does not want final detailed plans for the whole field's development to be submitted until it has had time to monitor

the first appraisal drilling on Furzey Island.

The oil companies have still to reach a final decision on how to ship the extra oil production out of the area. BP has been examining schemes to build a pipeline to the naval harbour at Portland, as well as a plan to use specially built flat-bottom tankers to ship the oil out through the narrow waters of Poole harbour.

If the application is not called in BP hopes to start building a slipway on the island and clearing its drilling sites by early summer. The first drilling is unlikely to start until December.

One of the conditions stipulated by the council is that the construction work can be carried out only during daylight hours on weekdays.

The increasing volume of onshore oil exploration is likely to be given further impetus when the Department of Energy announces a new onshore licensing regime, which will cover the whole country.

The council's decision may have been influenced by the fact that, according to Mr Alan Swindall, the county planning officer, the Countryside Commission had raised no objection to BP's plans.

It had added that the environmental impact was likely to be insignificant, apart from the threat of a blow-out during drilling, which the Department of Energy considered "highly unlikely."

But last night the commission appeared partially to contradict Mr Swindall's statement by calling for a public inquiry to examine the environmental implications.

The commission acknowledged that the immediate consequences of the council's approval of the well were unlikely to be severe. But it was concerned about the longer term proposals for a 10-fold increase in oil production in the Purbeck area.



An officer cadet who won a personal battle against cancer, yesterday received her commission in the British Army from the Queen.

Lieutenant Therese Nation, aged 21, (far right) was one of 430 officer cadets who passed out at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst. It was the first time in 20 years that the Queen had taken the Sovereign's Parade.

Lieutenant Nation, the daughter of a sub-postmaster from Bridgwater, Somerset, contracted stomach cancer, while studying for her A levels. She kept it from all but her closest family and, after two serious operations, was pronounced cured.

When she applied to join the Women's Royal Army Corps last year she told them about her medical record but was passed fit and entered Sandhurst.

After marching off the parade ground Lieutenant Nation said: "I'm delighted to have finished the course. Today has been really wonderful."

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## Pollution tests at Sellafield

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

Pollution dispersion tests will begin in Cumbria next week in the latest stage of research by scientists from the Meteorological Office.

They are assembling maps of Britain, which show how industrial pollutants or infectious windborne agents, such as that causing animal disease, similar to foot and mouth,

could be spread depending on landscape and the prevailing weather conditions.

The trials next week will start with the release from a 200ft chimney with small amounts of an unusual gaseous compound called sulphur hexafluoride, which provides a tracer substance that can be monitored over distances of many miles.

The highest chimney for the work in Cumbria is on the Sellafield nuclear fuel reprocessing site of British Nuclear Fuels.

The experiments are conducted by a team of meteorologists known as the Boundary Layer Research Group of the Meteorological Office, at Bracknell, Berkshire.

## Miners' strike aftermath

### Threats prevent Kent men from working

By Richard Dowden

Many of the Kent miners who worked during the strike are now unable to work because of intimidation by their colleagues and are either staying off "sick" or have applied for transfer or redundancy.

One miner who worked during the strike said that 85 per cent of those who had broken the strike in the Kent coalfield were staying away but a coal board spokesman said the figure had dropped from 50 per cent in the days after the return to work five weeks ago to about 25 per cent.

The miner, who did not wish to be named, said that he and others who worked during the strike were subjected to constant verbal abuse, threatened, jostled and obstructed. The men's children were also abused and one child of a former working miner was recently knocked unconscious in the street.

The miner, a young man of more than five years' employment at Tilmanstone colliery, said that of 23 there who went back to work, said he preferred not to give his name, because he would be attacked

by militants and identified as a troublemaker by management.

"I feel betrayed by the coal board. They just hope the problem will go away. They don't even bother to record incidents reported to them any more. The militants now know they can get away with it." The local CID had given him a direct police telephone number so that he could report incidents inside the colliery as well as outside.

"Now you've done your bit for them they will not do your bit for you. They don't want to know any more." Last week he had seen a miner, who had worked during the strike and who is due to appear as a witness for the coal board in a criminal damage case on Monday being openly threatened by colleagues. He had reported their names but nothing had been done.

Now that some of the intimidation had come to the notice of the coal board at national level the local management would be forced to do something.

"This is phase II of Scargill's struggle. When he said there would be guerrilla war he meant the war to be against working

miners to drive them out of the industry so that when he calls another strike everyone will come out."

Mr Jack Collins, of the Kent National Union of Mineworkers, denied there was intimidation.

A coal board spokesman said there had been frequent delays in reporting incidents and it was very difficult to get witnesses. Each incident was investigated and reported to the colliery manager but not to the police. The incident involving Mr Don Dixon last Wednesday when Mr Dixon was allegedly hit on the head with a hammer while in the cage at Tilmanstone had not been reported to the colliery officials for a week although it had been reported to the police

and had appeared in the Press before then.

To date no one had been suspended or dismissed for intimidation in the Kent coalfield.

Mrs Irene McGibbon, who founded the working wives' return to work campaign last year, said that at Belshanger Colliery where her husband Robert works, all those who had broken the strike had to work on the surface and follow a different shift pattern so that they did not meet the other miners.

The local coal board spokesman asked what more could be done and said supervisors could not be with the men "every moment of the day".

elsewhere. The association is expected to announce the results of a two-week recruiting drive today.

After a meeting last night to draw up rules, one of the leaders, Mr Robert Skelton, said support was growing. More than 500 men had this week asked the coal board to stop deducting NUM dues from their wages.

The Durham-based Colliery Trade and Allied Workers Association, set up by men expelled from the NUM for working during the strike, is said to be interesting miners

certain subjects in the new examinations will lead to control of the curriculum. Parents will assume these are the subjects their children should be studying."

Mr Gordon Mullis, of Wakefield, said he thought the danger was not confined to one political party and regardless of which party governed "we are still going to be under increasing State control. The essential autonomy of the teaching profession is being undermined."

Mr Robert Griffiths, of Loughborough, questioned the assumption that the traditional partnership was durable. He cited the case of Mr Ray Honeyford, the Bradford headmaster suspended for publishing opinions unpopular with his education authority.

"We are in danger from this

the value of the information to Parliament and the public).

He changed his mind later in the year and decided because of public interest to give a complete local authority by authority breakdown.

It showed that the pupil-teacher ratios bore little relation to what was happening in the schools. In 1983, some 23.5 per cent of primary pupils and 11.4 per cent of secondary were being taught in classes of between 30 and 35 children. Some 2.9 per cent primary and 0.5 per cent secondary in classes of between 36 and 40, and 0.2 per cent primary and 0.1 per cent secondary in classes of more than 40.

In percentage terms those

figures do not appear dramatic. But in reality they mean that in 1983 1.4 million children were in classes of more than 30 pupils and more than 100,000 primary and nearly 20,000 secondary pupils were in classes of 36 or more.

In Birmingham, for example, one of the authorities with the highest pupil-teacher ratios, 41,000 primary pupils and more than 14,000 secondary pupils were in classes of more than 30.

A National Union of Teachers spokesman said last night: "In a primary school a teacher is unlikely to get more than eight minutes of individual attention a day with a class size of 30 to 35. And such a size is quite common."

Correction

Mr Timothy Sainsbury MP was a backbencher during the debate on the Shop Hours Bill, introduced by Raymond Whitney MP in February 1983, and not an assistant whip until June 1983.

The Times overseas selling prices: Australia \$10.00, Belgium 8.00, Canada \$10.00, Denmark 10.00, France 10.00, Germany 10.00, Greece 10.00, Hong Kong 10.00, India 10.00, Italy 10.00, Japan 10.00, Korea 10.00, Malaysia 10.00, Mexico 10.00, New Zealand 10.00, Norway 10.00, Portugal 10.00, Singapore 10.00, South Africa 10.00, Spain 10.00, Sweden 10.00, Switzerland 10.00, Taiwan 10.00, Thailand 10.00, Turkey 10.00, USA 10.00, UK 10.00, Venezuela 10.00.

Bank of Scotland Base Rate

Bank of Scotland announces that, with effect from 15th April, 1985 its Base Rate will be decreased from 13.25% per annum to 13.00% per annum

BANK OF SCOTLAND A FRIEND FOR LIFE

that he and his colleagues are not allowed to make telephone calls or post letters from their office at party headquarters.

"Central Office is interpreting the suspension of our grant in such a way that we have been closed down."

Mr MacGregor says the federation offers full support in taking disciplinary measures against those responsible for vandalism, but believes that Mr Gummer was misinformed as to the extent of damage.

The view that the alleged vandalism was greatly exaggerated received strong support from Professor Peter Howard-Williams, warden of the neighbourhood hall of residence in a letter published in *The Times* yesterday.

Mr MacGregor complains

Unpaid volunteers working alongside teachers in schools because of staff shortage are harming children's education, it was claimed at the National Association of Schoolmasters' Union of Women Teachers conference in Torquay yesterday.

In one primary school, a grandmother helping with children's reading was found to be illiterate.

A proposal to instruct NAS/UWT members not to work with unpaid volunteers narrowly failed to win support.

The introduction of distinction and merit certificates for

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Last year, Sir Keith Joseph was asked in Parliament to give statistics on class sizes but refused to do so because it would have cost more than £200 (the limit above which ministers have to judge whether the cost is disproportionate to

## Labour puts stop to contrived by-elections

By Hugh Clayton  
Local Government Correspondent

Labour members of county councils which the Government wants to abolish next year, have dropped their plan to resign and force by-elections next month.

"There will be no contrived by-elections," Mr John Gunnell, Labour leader of West Yorkshire County Council and spokesman for the other five threatened county councils, said yesterday.

Members had responded to a decision of the national executive of the Labour Party that they should stay in office. Some had intended to resign as a protest against the Government's cancellation of elections that were due next month, he said. Those members had decided that they had no right to accept an extended term of office when they had been elected in 1981 for four years.

Elections will be held on May 2 in all English counties, except those which the Government wants to abolish on March 31 next year.

There are more than 20 million voters in the counties where elections are to be held, and 18 million in the metropolitan areas, including Greater London, where they have been cancelled.

Mr Gunnell said that some councillors had been reluctant to accept the decision of the national executive.

A few "naturally occurring" by-elections will be held in the threatened counties. There will be three in South Yorkshire on May 3, and dates have still to be fixed for a by-election in Greater Manchester and one in West Midlands.

## Paradox of profits and milk quotas

By John Young

Agriculture Correspondent Dairy farmers who ignored quotas, retained their herds, supplied them with top quality feed and produced as much milk as possible have had an exceptionally prosperous year, according to Mr Allan Price, chairman of Unilever's main agricultural subsidiary, BOCM Silcock.

The paradox was explained by a combination of a 20 per cent drop in feed prices and the fact that the dairy industry in England and Wales produced about 2.5 per cent less than its overall quota limit, which meant that no penal levies were imposed on individual farmers who exceeded their allocations.

In parts of Wales and south-west England farmers had been penalised by the imposition of quotas, whereas the boards in Scotland and Northern Ireland had been far more successful in tuning production to quota limits.

In England and Wales, the Ministry, the Milk Marketing Board and the feed industry had all failed to give farmers the right advice. "To some extent we were caught with our trousers down", he said.

The sharp drop in milk production had increased oversupply in the feed industry from about one million to 2.5 million tonnes, nearly a quarter of its annual output, he added.

The result had been many milk closures and an estimated 2,000 redundancies.

Councils aim to ease tensions

By David Lister

Educational Supplement A meeting of the employers' panel has been called in an effort to ease growing tension in the teachers' pay dispute.

However the meeting, due to take place within 10 days, will probably be more concerned with settling differences between Conservative and Labour-controlled councils.

Mr Philip Merridale, chairman of the Conservative-controlled Association of County Councils education committee, emphasized that he was still looking to the conciliation service Acas as the means of solving the dispute.

The *Treasures of Islam* exhibition is drawn from both museum and private collections, such as that of Sheikh Nasser al-Sabah of Kuwait, and many of the items have never been shown in public.

The auctioneers Bukowski took what could be a record for a painting by a female artist in a four-day sale which began on Tuesday in Stockholm. Helene Schjerfbeck, a Finno-Swedish painter, is not well known outside Scandinavia, where she is well regarded. But a collector paid 1.7 million krona (£170,000) for her study of a convalescent girl dated 1927.

Correction

Mr Timothy Sainsbury MP was a backbencher during the debate on the Shop Hours Bill, introduced by Raymond Whitney MP in February 1983, and not an assistant whip until June 1983.

The Times overseas selling prices: Australia \$10.00, Belgium 8.00, Canada \$10.00, Denmark 10.00, France 10.00, Germany 10.00, Greece 10.00, Hong Kong 10.00, India 10.00, Italy 10.00, Japan 10.00, Korea 10.00, Malaysia 10.00, Mexico 10.00, New Zealand 10.00, Norway 10.00, Portugal 10.00, Singapore 10.00, South Africa 10.00, Spain 10.00, Sweden 10.00, Switzerland 10.00, Taiwan 10.00, Thailand 10.00, Turkey 10.00, USA 10.00, UK 10.00, Venezuela 10.00.

Bank of Scotland Base Rate

Bank of Scotland announces that, with effect from 15th April, 1985 its Base Rate will be decreased from 13.25% per annum to 13.00% per annum

BANK OF SCOTLAND A FRIEND FOR LIFE

that he and his colleagues are not allowed to make telephone calls or post letters from their office at party headquarters.

"Central Office is interpreting the suspension of our grant in such a way that we have been closed down."

Mr MacGregor says the federation offers full support in taking disciplinary measures against those responsible for vandalism, but believes that Mr Gummer was misinformed as to the extent of damage.

The view that the alleged vandalism was greatly exaggerated received strong support from Professor Peter Howard-Williams, warden of the neighbourhood hall of residence in a letter published in *The Times* yesterday.

Mr MacGregor complains

Unpaid volunteers working alongside teachers in schools because of staff shortage are harming children's education, it was claimed at the National Association of Schoolmasters' Union of Women Teachers conference in Torquay yesterday.

In one primary school, a grandmother helping with children's reading was found to be illiterate.

A proposal to instruct NAS/UWT members not to work with unpaid volunteers narrowly failed to win support.

The introduction of distinction and merit certificates for

primary or secondary class should have more than 25 pupils. This week it resolved that individual schools should be encouraged to take individual action if there are more than 30 in a class, and that there should be a national mass public campaign on the issue.

In fact, more than one million pupils are in classes of more than 30. Some, indeed, are in classes of more than 40 children.

Last year, Sir Keith Joseph was asked in Parliament to give statistics on class sizes but refused to do so because it would have cost more than £200 (the limit above which ministers have to judge whether the cost is disproportionate to



## More babies risk catching Aids from blood transfusions, inquest told

The father of a baby aged 21 months who died after contracting Aids was led weeping from a London inquest yesterday as the coroner recorded a verdict of death by misadventure.

After Mr Gerald Thorpe left St Pancras coroners' court, Dr Douglas Chambers said that he would write to the chief medical officer at the Department of Health to say that similar deaths ought to be prevented.

Dr Chambers was speaking after hearing how Antony Thorpe had died from pneumonia at the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street. He received blood transfusions in the United States after complications following his birth 26 weeks into the pregnancy. He weighed 900 grams.

The inquest was told that more babies in Britain were likely to contract Aids (acquired immune deficiency syndrome), in spite of tighter screening of blood used in transfusions than was the case in the United States.

But, Dr Roland Levinsky, consultant paediatric immunologist at Great Ormond Street, said the risks of catching the disease through blood transfusions in Britain were "really very, very minimal". "I can't see there would be anything to make parents worry."

The inquest was told that after birth Antony Thorpe developed several complications, including a heart complaint which necessitated being put on a ventilator for nine weeks and multiple blood transfusions and then surgery. He became blind. It is believed he was injected with the Aids virus then.

The transfusions were given at a hospital at Washington DC, where he was born. That is standard practice in the United States for premature babies the inquest was told.

States for premature babies the inquest was told.

The boy was admitted to a hospital in England on his return, and which did not respond to the usual treatment and placed in an infectious diseases ward, 21 days ago.

After further tests, Aids was diagnosed. Dr Vicki Papadakis, registrar in infectious diseases, said: "He was initially very stable, but very ill. Gradually over the next two weeks he became very ill despite medical management. He did not respond to medical treatment and eventually he succumbed."

The boy died on Wednesday night. He weighed scarcely 2lbs. Dr Levinsky told the inquest that other cases of children contracting Aids would occur.

"But I hope that there isn't as much publicity as this case has had because, from the parents' point of view the devastating loss of a child has given them a lot to put up with and the publicity is more than they can cope with."

Mr Thorpe was taken from the court room in tears after he gave a brief formal identification of his son. His address was kept secret.

The coroner said the baby's unnatural death was as a result

of an infected blood transfusion. "He was suffering from Aids, which has acquired a certain notoriety."

"What we have here I'm afraid are rather rare circumstances, but not so rare, of somebody dying because of an infection of blood given for perfectly proper reasons and the child died of the consequences thereof," Dr Chambers said.

The parents were rushed into a waiting car and shielded from photographers by court officers. Mrs Thorpe arrived and left with her husband, but was not at the hearing.

● Fear of Aids should not stop people having blood transfusions, the Department of Health said yesterday. "The chances of contracting Aids through a normal blood transfusion are extremely remote. If you need a blood transfusion, go ahead and have it."

It was pointed out that Antony Thorpe received blood transfusions in the United States, where donors are paid to give blood. This system attracts down-and-out drug addicts who have been contaminated with Aids.

The department said that there was no indication that blood supplies in Britain were affected.

"We cannot guarantee it absolutely and that is why we are looking at methods of testing blood donations."

● In the United States, 109 children under 13 are reported to have contracted Aids, and 72 have died. Most were born to women with Aids, but some received contaminated blood transfusions.

Three babies died in Australia last November after receiving contaminated blood.

The biggest international conference on Aids is next week in Atlanta, Georgia.

Mr Thorpe after the inquest

## Doctor 'did not examine' child's burns

The mother of a girl aged three who died from burns, told an inquest yesterday that when she rushed her daughter to a hospital 100 yards away she found the emergency unit closed because of health care.

She also claimed at Southwark coroners' court that the doctor who attended did not examine her daughter.

Mrs Sandra Everest, of Brimsdown House, Devas Street, Bow, east London, said that she was ushered into the telephone exchange before being taken some time later to

Guy's Hospital, five miles away, where her daughter, Charlotte, died 10 days later.

Sir Montague Levine, the coroner, adjourned the hearing to a date to be fixed when he was told that the doctor was not in court.

Mrs Everest said that her daughter was burnt in a fire at their home on February 10. She rushed her to St Andrews Hospital, Bow.

When she arrived at the porter's lodge she was told by a man to go into the telephone

exchange while a nurse and doctor were called.

"The doctor didn't come until five minutes later," she said. "The sister said: 'Call an ambulance'. The doctor didn't examine the child or assess her. The doctor said: 'Wrap the child up in a sheet'."

Mrs Everest said that her daughter's legs and face were covered in burns.

Mr Harold Ragot-Lavy, her solicitor, told the coroner that the unit was closed because of health cuts on November 22 last year.

## BBC helps parents with maths

By Bill Johnstone  
Technology Correspondent  
Innumerate parents who have shied away from helping their children with mathematics or home microcomputers are to be offered a solution by the BBC. A mathematics program to assist in understanding and teaching mathematics is to go on sale in the high street this month, at about the same time as a new microcomputers television series for parents is to be screened.

The launch of the program is a big departure by the corporation as for the first time it will not only be available for use on the BBC's microcomputer but on its principal rivals - the Acorn Electron, the Sinclair Spectrum and the Commodore.

The computer software pack, called "Maths with a Story", will retail for about £10. A family teaching guide to accompany the software will be on sale from next month. A second software pack on mathematics is to be launched in the autumn.

The television series, *The Learning Machine* which will assist parents who have problems with computers will be launched late this month.

According to the BBC: "The world of microcomputers can be confusing for those parents who have bought their children a micro in the hope that they can use it either to learn computing or as an aid to their normal school work. This new series of six programmes shows parents how they can get more from their micros at home and informs them of progress being made within schools."

● IBM, the US computer company is to expand its factory in Greenock, Scotland. The announcement comes shortly after an EEC-sponsored report criticised the dominant position of non-British multinationals, particularly the US companies, in the Scottish electronics sector.

The company employs 2,800 people at Greenock.



Mr Watson and his daughter Clare feeding the heron at their home in Dagenham, east London. (Photograph: John Manning)

## Conservationists care for chemical spillage victim

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

Mr Barry Watson, a conservation specialist, has been feeding a heron in his home since Friday of last week, after a chemical spillage that is endangering wildlife. Thousands of fish along a 15-mile stretch of the river Roding, in Essex, have been killed. The incident had happened at the start of the spring "eel run", when the eels spawned in the Sargasso sea migrate to the inland waters and are coming up the river.

Mr Watson, of the London Wildlife Trust, and his daughter Clare, aged 16, have been caring for the heron at their home in Dagenham. Mr Watson said that the bird was very hungry and was too weak to find a fresh feeding territory. A heron loses weight rapidly if it misses one day's food. In 48 hours a bird could lose four to six ounces and become too weak to move, he said.

The heron needs the atten-

tion of both Mr Watson and his daughter because it will not feed itself in captivity. But as it has a wingspan of about four feet, it is not easy to hold and force-feed with pieces of eel obtained from the fishmonger.

The spillage happened when a lorry shed drums containing an insecticide called Darsban on the M11 motorway, north of Romford, where it crosses the river Roding. The active ingredient causing the damage was chlorpyrifos, which, the manufacturers said, was very toxic to fish.

Chlorpyrifos is poisonous to trout in concentrations of one part in one thousand million. When the material first trickled into the Roding via surface drainage culverts the amounts in the upper reaches of the river were 1,000 times above the poison level.

The agent was in transit from a factory at Kings Lynn to Sheerness for export to Austria.

## 11,000-volt shock for intruder

Nigel Steadman, aged 18, of Wolverhampton, survived an 11,000 volt shock when he tried to steal equipment from an electricity sub-station, a court was told yesterday.

"He's the luckiest man walking on the face of the earth," Det Constable Philip Softer-Jones told Wolverhampton Crown Court.

Steadman, of Kingsley Place, Bilston who admitted entering the sub-station with intent to steal and also damaging Midlands Electricity Board property, was ordered to do 100 hours community service.

## Open verdict on vicar after petrol blaze

An open verdict has been recorded on a vicar whose burning body was found beside a petrol can and next to a blazing petrol can.

The Rev John Smith, aged 60, of St Anne's Church, Church Road, Bagshot, Surrey, was found in his garden after he told his wife he was going to mow the lawn, an inquest at Chertsey was told on Tuesday.

Two notes hinting at suicide were found in his study, but the Surrey coroner, Colonel George McEwan, said it was possible the notes were part of a sermon Mr Smith was preparing.

His wife, Rose, said that on the day he died her husband appeared "perfectly happy and cheerful".

## Fourth charge in siege case

John Hoods, aged 25, of Watcroft Square, Hammer-smith, west London, appeared at Highgate Magistrates' Court yesterday, charged with three others in connection with an armed siege at the Mount Royal Hotel, Marble Arch. The four were remanded in custody until April 19.

possessing a dead song thrush and possessing a badger's skull.

Starks had pleaded guilty to having a shotgun without a firearms certificate.

Hull was sentenced to three months' youth custody and Starks to three months at a detention centre. They were both ordered to pay £100 costs to the RSPCA.

Mr Sean Eawright, for the defence said: "Mr Starks did not realize it was wrong to shoot small birds and other animals."



Classical rock: Yehudi Menuhin playing the huge Folkstone rock presented to him yesterday by some of the 48 finalists in the Orion Insurance International Violin Competition that started yesterday in Folkstone and ends next Saturday. The violinists, who are all under 20 and represent 16 countries, were welcomed to London yesterday at the Royal Festival Hall. (Photograph: Suresh Karadia)

## Pressure grows for family court

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Moves to set up a family court are gathering momentum with the decision by a review committee of officials from the Lord Chancellor's Department and the Home Office to publish a paper later this year exploring options for the court and its expected costs.

Advocates of a family court say it will be less costly than the present system, offer a better chance of conciliation, and benefit individuals by building up expertise in the provision of welfare, the conduct of proceedings and the conduct of lawyers appearing before it.

The paper will examine the possible functions of the court, its staffing, accommodation, location, the judiciary, availability of legal aid, advice and assistance, and relationships with the welfare services.

This weekend the Law Society launches a campaign for a family court, with a conference, planned for next month, which will bring together 70 representatives from legal, political, social work and religious organizations, MPs and the judiciary.

Apart from wishing to streamline the system, one of the aims of the society is to

## Man jailed for £11,000 path fraud

A man who deceived an elderly spinster into paying £11,000, her life savings, for laying a gravel path to her bungalow, was jailed for two years at Oxford Crown Court yesterday.

Michael Joyce, of the Slade Caravan Park, Headington, Oxford, was found guilty of obtaining money by deception from Miss Millicent Powell, aged 66, of Cane Lane, Grove, Oxfordshire. He was also ordered to pay £1,000 compensation.

## Strangle marks on dead boy

Wayne Keeton, aged 10, whose body was found in 2½ft of water under a bridge on the river Leen at Nottingham on Sunday, had a chest injury and strangulation marks, a pathologist said at an inquest which was opened and adjourned yesterday.

The boy, of Goshland Close, Bestwood Park Estate, Nottingham, was dying, if not already dead, when he went into the river several days earlier, Dr Stephen Jones, a Home Office pathologist, told the coroner.

## 'Minder' actor's son chased necklace thief

The wife of George Cole, the actor in the television series *Minder*, told a court yesterday that their son Toby, aged 13, chased a thief after she was robbed in Oxford Street.

Mrs Penny Cole, aged 47, was giving evidence at Knightsbridge Crown Court where Joseph Williams, aged 26, a trainee shipping manager of Honeywell Road, Clapham, south London, has denied robbing her of a gold necklace.

Her son told the court that he had failed to pick out the assailant at an informal identity parade.

Mr Richard Evans, a record promoter of Boscombe Road, Shepherd's Bush, west London, said he had joined in the chase and picked out the man at an informal identity parade three weeks later.

But Mr Williams' employer, Mr Alistair Rolison-Saul, of Clapham Gold and Silversmiths, told the court he telephoned him at home between 4.30 and 4.30 pm on the day of the robbery. Earlier Mrs Cole had said the incident happened between 3.45 and 4 pm.

The case was adjourned until Monday.

## Tax protester faces jail

A pacifist who refuses to pay £109.05 to the inland revenue because the money might be spent on arms faces a 21-day prison sentence.

Mr Arthur Windsor, aged 67, a former librarian, who says he has a moral right to insist that his taxes are not spent on armaments, told Judge Braithwaite at Gloucester County Court: "We want to see a change in the law to allow us to say that we want our money used for peaceful purposes."

"In the meanwhile those of

us whose consciences are severely disturbed must do something to protest."

The judge gave him 21 days to pay.

Mr Windsor, of Brunswick Square, Gloucester, said that he had abandoned plans to appeal further.

The Inland Revenue has a court order entitling it to enter his home and seize property. They have already done so twice, on the first occasion seizing his car which was sold at auction to settle an earlier debt.

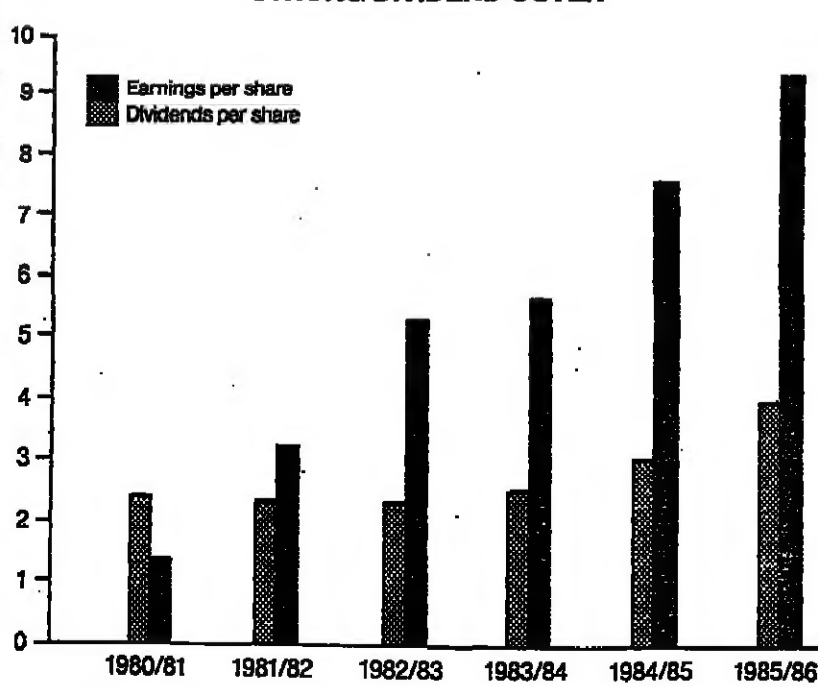
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## Bird protection protest

By Tony Samstag

Proposals to remove legal protection from four bird species and place them on the "quarry list" have been deplored by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds.

Under the Wildlife and Countryside (Amendment) Bill before Parliament, curlew, redshank, Brent geese and barnacle geese, all protected by the existing Act, would become fair game.

Mr Richard Porter, head of

## Badger baiters sentenced

Two teenage badger baiters were given custodial sentences yesterday by a Croydon magistrate who described their activities as grisly and callous.

Mark Starks, aged 19, a labourer, and Andrew Hull, aged 18, unemployed, both from Old Coulsdon, had previously admitted using spotlights to dazzle badgers in Happy Valley Woods, Coulsdon and setting further dogs on them to kill them. They had also pleaded guilty to theft of a buzzard, possessing a buzzard,

possessing a dead song thrush and possessing a badger's skull.

Starks had pleaded guilty to having a shotgun without a firearms certificate.

Hull was sentenced to three months' youth custody and Starks to three months at a detention centre. They were both ordered to pay £100 costs to the RSPCA.

Mr Sean Eawright, for the defence said: "Mr Starks did not realize it was wrong to shoot small birds and other animals."

Union seeks expulsion over 'poll rigging'

Disruption threat at BBC ends

Prince accuses Sathieby



## Brittan rejects criticism that Government is too strict over immigration

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

About 333,000 wives and children of immigrants already in the United Kingdom had been admitted for settlement during the past decade, Mr Leon Brittan, Home Secretary, said yesterday.

The number of applicants in the Indian sub-continent seeking to settle in the United Kingdom exceeded the capacity to deal with the applications, he told the annual conference of the United Kingdom Immigrants Advisory Service (UKIAS) in Manchester.

The queue of people awaiting a decision on their case for immediate settlement, had been practically halved, from 37,000 in 1979 to 19,000 at the end of last year. But in Dhaka, Bangladesh, the number of applications was higher in 1983 and 1984 than in the previous peak year of 1979.

Mr Brittan was answering a

criticism, made by the Commission for Racial Equality in a recent report on immigration control procedures, that the Government was too control-minded. He said that there were now 19,000 Vietnamese refugees in Britain, and the Government had "continuing commitments in respect of family reunions and boat rescue".

Its policy was "the objective pursued by successive governments, firm but fair immigration control in recognition of the fact that we could not possibly accept all those who want to come here".

The commission's report, and the annual report of the UKIAS, were "critical of the general attitude and approach" of immigration officials, Mr Brittan said. New elements of race relations training were to be introduced for all immi-

gration and nationality department staff.

He defended their awareness of responsibilities and professionalism, but the onus was on management, under ministerial leadership, to equip them with the skills needed. A review of instructions produced for staff was under way, with the possibility of publication.

Mr Brittan did not accept the suggestion in the commission's report that the police role in immigration control had contributed little to it, while being generally damaging. But to make more effective use of resources, the immigration service would be playing a greater part in the tracing and removal of deportees.

Mr Brittan said that nationality fees for registration and naturalization, reduced a year ago, would be frozen until at least March 1986.

## Doctors are prescribing blacklisted drugs

By Thomson Prentice Science Correspondent

General practitioners are being told by the British Medical Association how they can prescribe drugs blacklisted by the government.

Guidelines being distributed by the association advise family doctors that the generic formula of any product may be prescribed.

"If there is no generic equivalent of the banned product, the chemist has to dispense it and is entitled to be paid the normal fee," the association said yesterday.

There is wide evidence that many doctors are prescribing such drugs in spite of the ban, which is intended to cut the cost of NHS prescriptions by £100 million a year.

"We are not exploiting a loophole. We warned the Department of Health that this problem area existed," the association said yesterday. "The way round it would have been to introduce generic prescribing across the board."

"We are trying to help doctors get round the problem of wanting to prescribe a drug that is best for the patient."

Among the blacklisted products being prescribed and dispensed are pain-killers such as Distalgic, DF 118 and Solpadeine.

Mr Ronald Wing, president of the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry, said at its annual dinner on Thursday: "The limited list has only one justification, to save money, and it will singularly fail to achieve any semblance of the savings expected of it."

Court ruling stuns America

## Rape case man back in jail after judge rejects retraction

From Trevor Fishlock New York

Americans were astonished yesterday by the latest twist in the curious story of Gary Dotson, jailed six years ago for rape. Last week, he was released from prison after the woman he was alleged to have raped announced that she had invented the attack.

Mr Dotson, who had been given a 25 to 50 years sentence, was reunited with his overjoyed mother and sisters. He said he bore no bitterness towards the woman and was grateful that she had retracted.

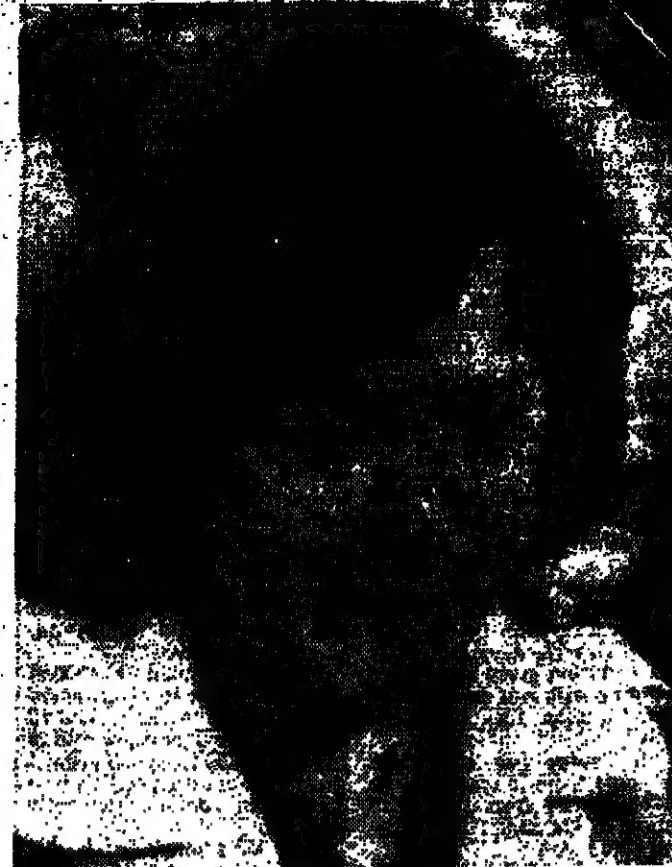
Mr Dotson, aged 28, is now back in prison. A judge at Markham, Illinois, refused to overturn his conviction, describing the retraction as unreliable.

Mr Dotson banged his fists on the table in front of him, and his family wept, as Judge Richard Samuels, who had also presided at the original trial, announced his ruling.

Mrs Cathleen Webb, who claimed at the trial in 1979 that Mr Dotson had raped her, was led from the court in tears. "He is innocent," she said. "I lied in 1979."

Mr Webb said in court last week that she had invented the rape story because she feared she might have become pregnant after having had sex with her boyfriend. She was 16 at the time. She did not want her foster parents to know of the affair and scratched herself and tore her clothing before reporting that she had been attacked in the back of a car.

She picked out Mr Dotson from photographs in police files. Mrs Webb, now married with two children, said last



Tears of frustration: Mrs Webb leaving the court in Markham, Illinois, insisting that Mr Dotson is innocent.

week that her religious beliefs had made her come forward.

But, refusing Mr Dotson's petition to quash the conviction, Judge Samuels said that in 1979 he and the jury had been convinced by Mrs Webb's "clear" evidence. He also cited strong precedents requiring strong corroboration for recantations.

"Recanting testimony is regarded as very unreliable and a court will usually deny a new trial on that ground where it is not satisfied such testimony is true."

He added: "I don't know why Cathy Webb got up on the stand and told what she did. That's only known to her."

## Heat fails to cool Thatcher spirit

From Michael Hamlyn Kandy, Sri Lanka

Visibly willing in the heat of Sri Lanka's hottest time of year, Mrs Margaret Thatcher yesterday offered encouragement to President J. R. Jayewardene in his struggle against terrorism in the north of the island and declared that terrorism must never be allowed to succeed anywhere in the world.

"People are only turning to the bullet because they cannot get their way through the ballot," Mrs Thatcher - unusually encased in a long-sleeved dress and a three-row pearl choker - told a sweating press conference. "They are trying to impose a rule by force."

The Prime Minister, visiting the central highlands of Sri Lanka to commission the new Victoria Dam, which was built by British firms using British aid, also declared that her Government was doing and would do all it could to prevent Tamil extremists using London for buying and supplying arms.

Last night President Jayewardene expressed his country's dissatisfaction with these efforts by saying at a State banquet: "Your citizens too are being misled to contribute to seemingly innocuous groups. They are used to buy narcotics and weapons to harm and kill Sri Lankans."

Mrs Thatcher had drawn a parallel between her efforts to stop arms being supplied from the United States to the terrorists, and added that the Sri Lankan ethnic crisis would be discussed with Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, after she arrives in Delhi today.

She declined to be drawn on subjects which have so far made her tour of eight Asian countries controversial in Britain.

She defended staunchly the Commonwealth, which had earlier been the subject of some poisonous remarks in Malaysia, and asserted that she had nothing to add to her comments on the miners' strike which changed Labour MPs last weekend.

She could not help pointing out to a questioner who drew attention to a hostile resolution from Sri Lanka made by unionists that "one third of the miners kept on working despite violence and despite intimidation". Mrs Thatcher added: "We are very grateful for the bravery and leadership of those people."

At her press conference the Prime Minister also lapped down a remark from a Labour MP, Miss Betty Boothroyd, who had accused her of having claimed the credit for supporting the Victoria Dam project when it should have been attributed to her Labour predecessors.

"I can assure you it was our decision," she said, adding that all decisions of the previous government were up for review after she came to power.

Mr Jayewardene, however, was careful to thank "you and your predecessors" in his speech at the commissioning of the dam under a corrugated iron canopy decorated with palm fronds. The perspiring Prime Minister fanned herself faintly with a programme, amid scenes of considerable scenic splendour.

She said that her Government had set their hand to the task of helping Sri Lanka with the dam "because we felt we could with confidence endorse the economic policies your government was committed to pursuing."

She added: "Our policy is to support abroad the disciplines we practice at home. That means efficient use of resources, careful control of public spending and becoming more competitive in an increasingly competitive world."

With two more countries to visit before she returns, Mrs Thatcher was obviously suffering from Sri Lanka's humid warmth. She coughed a number of times during her press conference, and at one moment appeared quite distressed. "It is a bit hot today," she said.

Last night she addressed the State banquet. Today she will speak to a special session of Parliament - despite some grumbling from left-wing opposition members who complained that it was the Sri Lankan new year - and how would she like to be summoned on Christmas Day.

Leading article, page 9

## Girl's ten years in a coma

From Trevor Fishlock New York

It is 10 years since Karen Quinlan fell into a coma. Her father visits her every morning, her mother two or three times a week. They talk to her and she looks at them and nods her head. "unresponsive" - neither dead nor alive.

Miss Quinlan was the centre of a famous case in 1976 when her parents won a ruling from the New Jersey Supreme Court that the respirator to which she was attached could be turned off.

The Quinlans wanted the machine switched off because they felt it was causing their daughter pain. Doctors refused and were supported by a lawyer, but in what was regarded as a "landmark" decision in questions of prolonging life by artificial means, the state supreme court said the machine could be switched off.

Doctors believed that Miss Quinlan's life probably depended on the respirator. It was disconnected in May 1976. Miss Quinlan's brain function had been largely destroyed, for reasons never clearly established, when she fell into a coma on April 15, 1975. She had drunk three Gins at a party at a time when she had also taken tranquilizers.

Miss Quinlan is now 31. She lies in a New Jersey nursing home in a foetal position, fed through a tube. She weighs five stone. Nurses turn her every two hours. Doctors feel she may eventually be overwhelmed by one of the lung infections that now afflict her every two months. Her treatment bills are met through Medicaid, the government welfare system.

Recently, the New Jersey Supreme Court ruled that feeding tubes could be removed from terminally ill patients, but Mr and Mrs Quinlan have not asked doctors to remove their daughter's tube. They feel it is not causing her pain.

Every morning Mr Joseph Quinlan drives to see his daughter before he goes to work at a pharmaceutical company. He talks to her and holds her hand. Both he and Mrs Quinlan know there is no hope of a recovery. They have decided that if Karen succumbs to an infection they will not ask for extraordinary measures to be taken to save her.

What helps to sustain them is the memory of a vivacious and pretty girl who filled their lives before she went into limbo at the age of 21.

Leading article, page 9

## Sikhs postpone protests after riots inquiry

From Kuldeep Nayar, Delhi

Within 24 hours of the announcement of a government inquiry into Sikh killings in Delhi after Mrs Gandhi's assassination, the Akali Dal party postponed a programme of protests, due to start today.

The party said in Amritsar that it will observe a "genocide week" from June to coincide with the anniversary of the entry by troops into the Golden Temple. The week will consist of prayer meetings and congregation in Sikh temples.

The party warned Mr Rajiv Gandhi's Government that it must take further steps if its demands were not met by June.

The meeting was attended by most Akali leaders.

Mr Jagdev Singh Talwandi, leader of a hawkish faction of the party, who did not attend, said that the government should have taken action against those accused in reports compiled by civil liberty groups rather than "wasting time" with a judicial inquiry.

● LIBERAL TRADING: India's Commerce Minister yesterday unveiled a liberal trade policy that opens the economy further to imports of goods and technology (Reuters reports).

"By encouraging the flow of foreign technology and goods into India, we will help to improve the quality and output of domestic production," Mr Vishwanath Prasad Singh said.

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# Sudan's military rulers will hand back power after 12 months

From Paul Valley, Khartoum

The new military regime in Sudan has agreed to hand over power to an elected civilian government after a year's transition, but it has rejected proposals that in the interim the country should be ruled by a primarily civilian body.

The decisions announced yesterday by the official government news agency, are the results of two days of meetings between the Army high command and the alliance of professional associations, trade unions and political parties which organized the general strike and demonstrations which led to Saturday's coup.

The agreement is seen as something of a compromise. The Army rejected, for security reasons, the alliance's notion of the sovereignty should reside in a supreme council of the armed forces commander, a representative of the rebel south and three civilians.

Brigadier Osman Abdulla, for the high command, agreed that a council of ministers consisting mainly of civilians would oversee the administration of the transitional period and that this "cabinet" would have a role in formulating legislation on day-to-day matters.

Legislation on constitutional matters will remain the prerogative of the Transitional Military Council, which the new leader, General Abdul Rahman Swar al-Dahab, announced this week.

Yesterday the professional associations, unions and political parties met individually to draw up lists of nominations to the council of ministers. The suggestions will be discussed with the military council today.

Observers see the selection of candidates as perhaps the most difficult area of negotiation. Since the coup dozens of long-dormant parties and pressure groups have reappeared to demand their say. Alliance members are talking hopefully of a new spirit of flexibility.

Under the agreed system an independent Permanent Elections Committee will organize a national ballot for a legislative assembly which will draft and approve a new constitution.

At the end of the transitional period the assembly will declare itself a parliament, to be elected every four years.

Groups of jurists, academics and politicians have already begun drafting clauses for the constitutional assembly to consider.

Apart from the minister of defence, who will be a soldier, the council of ministers will consist entirely of civilians acceptable to the armed forces, the unions and the parties. Two portfolios will be reserved for the south.

Leaders of the alliance yesterday declared themselves happy with the agreement. "It is not an ideal solution. We have

had to compromise on the ideas of a civilian transition. But the Army has conceded that the cabinet will take part in legislative decisions", said one union leader.

The Army implied at the recent meetings that any nomination of the unions and political parties would almost certainly be acceptable to the transitional military council.

The alliance and the military have already approved a 13-point charter to guarantee basic civil rights and be re-established the independence of the judiciary, civil service, unions, media, universities and police, all of which became politicized under the Nimeiry regime.

Groups of influential southerners meeting in Khartoum have presented demands to the new military government, including repeal of the Sharia (Islamic) law and the involvement of the southern rebel Sudanese Peoples' Liberation Movement in negotiations.

The new regime said yesterday that high court judges had held elections to replace the former Chief Justice, Fuad el-Amin, who was sacked this week for his involvement with the corrupt practices of the old regime.

Khartoum airport, which has been closed for eight days, opened yesterday.



Presidential mule: Sudanese supporters of the weekend coup celebrate by leading a turbaned mule representing former President Gaafar Nimeiry through Khartoum.

## Arafat holds secret talks with US politicians

Amman (AP, AFP) - PLO

Chairman, Mr Yassir Arafat, yesterday met a group of US congressmen. When they left after two hours of talks, they refused to say who had taken part or what was discussed.

Mr Arafat and King Hussein of Jordan have formed an alliance to explore possibilities for peace with Israel and creation of a Palestinian state, in confederation with Jordan. The US Administration insists it will not talk with the PLO until it explicitly recognizes Israel's right to exist. Congress is not bound by administration policy.

A PLO official yesterday said five congressmen and three aides took part in the talks at a Government guest house in Amman. Only the delegation's leader, Congressman David Obey, a Democrat, identified himself during the meeting. An aide to Mr Obey confirmed only that the delegation was due to go on to Damascus later yesterday.

The meeting yesterday came only a few days before the US Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, Mr Murphy, was due in Amman. Officials in Washington have indicated that Mr Murphy might meet a Palestinian-Jordanian delegation in the Middle East if Arab leaders drop their insistence that known PLO members be included.

## Discovery takes first Senator into space

From Mohsin Ali Washington

The space shuttle Discovery blasted off into overcast skies yesterday carrying a crew of seven, including Senator Jack Garn, the first legislator to orbit the earth.

The Discovery's launch, NASA's sixteenth space shuttle, was delayed by almost an hour because of poor weather and the presence of a cargo ship which had strayed into the restricted area of the Atlantic, off the Kennedy Space Centre.

The mission, postponed five times, came four years after the shuttle Columbia became the first reusable vehicle to fly in space.

Senator Garn, aged 52, a Republican from Utah, is chairman of a Senate subcommittee which oversees NASA's spending. He is on board as a Congressional observer. An experienced Korean War navy pilot he will be tested for the body's responses to weightlessness and nausea in space.

During its five-day mission the shuttle will deploy two communications satellites, one for Canada and one for the US Defence Department.

The crew, under the command of Colonel Karol Bobko, will also experiment with a variety of simple toys intended to demonstrate the unique properties of space flight for elementary and junior high school students.

## Reagan will mourn at Nazi graves

From Nicholas Ashford Washington

Jewish leaders reacted angrily yesterday to President Reagan's decision to lay a wreath at a German war cemetery at Bitburg, near the Luxembourg border, where many Nazi soldiers were buried after the "Battle of the Bulge" when he visits Europe next month.

He has previously declined to visit the site of the Dachau concentration camp, on the grounds that he did not want to reopen the "old wounds" of the Second World War.

His decision has also stirred resentment among American veterans' organizations who object to the fact that he will not be visiting US war graves during his 10-day visit.

There is a large American cemetery just 70 miles from Bitburg, where many US servicemen, including General George Patton, are buried.

Mr Daniel Thurn, executive vice-president of B'nai B'rith International, said the visit to a German military cemetery will stir the bitterest resentment.

Some embarrassed White House officials have conceded that the President's state visit to West Germany, which will take place immediately after the economic summit in Bonn, is becoming a "public relations disaster."

The decision was evidently taken to please Chancellor Kohl, who was upset at being excluded from last year's fortieth anniversary celebrations of the Allied D-Day landings in Normandy.

● FRANKFURT: German Jewish leaders are shocked at Mr Reagan's plan to visit the cemetery (AP reports).

Mr Ignatz Bubis, chairman of Frankfurt's 5,000-member Jewish community, called the plan outrageous.

● The Soviet Union has invited Britain to send a small delegation to attend VE-Day anniversary celebrations in Moscow on May 8 to 9 (Henry Stanhope writes).

But the Government has asked for more details of what is involved, and also wants to discuss its response with NATO allies.

## Concorde's slow debut in Moscow

Moscow (Reuters) - A British Airways Concorde flew into Moscow yesterday for a first-time visit by the supersonic airliner, bringing 98 tourists on a £995 24-hour trip.

Virtually the entire staff of Moscow's Sheremetyevo airport crowded at windows to watch Concorde touch down. The flight took five minutes longer than the airline's regular Moscow service, because the authorities would not give permission for supersonic flight through Soviet airspace.

## Back to Dallas

Los Angeles (Reuters) - Barbara Bel Geddes, forced to leave the Dallas television series by a quadruple heart bypass operation two years ago, will return to her role of Miss Ellie in the autumn, a studio spokesman said.

## Surrogate birth

Paris (Reuters) - Mme Patricia Lavoise, France's first commercial surrogate mother, gave birth to a girl at a maternity home in Montpellier two weeks ago, the home announced yesterday.

## Bomb death

Lisbon (AFP) - Senhor José Gomes Martins, a factory owner, died in an explosion which ripped through his car in Oporto. Responsibility for the attack was not immediately claimed.

## Underwater gun

Stockholm (Reuters) - The Swedish Navy used a new type of weapon, designed to cripple but not destroy any intruding underwater vessel by blasting tiny holes in its hull, during an alert off the southern coast on Thursday. It proved to be a false alarm.

## Wages threat

Moscow (AFP) - Pravda raised the possibility that Soviet workers might lose their basic right to a minimum guaranteed wage, quoting a worker's call for "much more severe measures against the lazy".

## Bonn police blamed after murder of Libyan

From Frank Johnson, Bonn

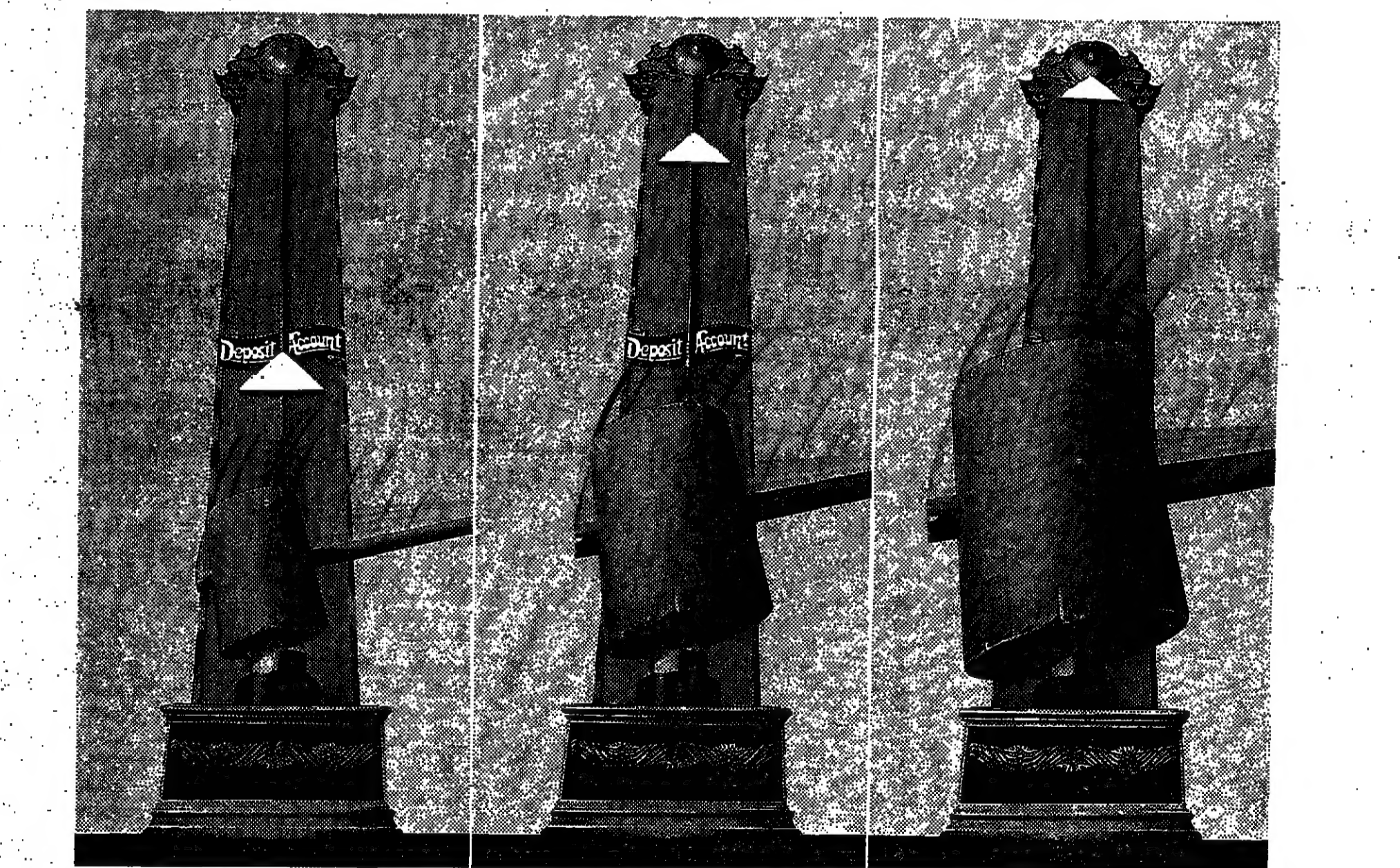
The shooting dead of an anti-Gaddafi Libyan by another Libyan in the crowded city centre here has led to a week of accusations that the murderer was known in advance to the police, and generalized anger about dangerous foreigners being allowed to come and go as they please.

A Federal Government spokesman said that Bonn police were alerted two months ago that the gunman was a potential assassin, and that, 21 days after this warning, the city's aliens office renewed his visa allowing him to stay a further two months in West Germany. He was originally here on a four-week visa.

Yesterday several Christian Democratic Party backbenchers in the Federal Parliament denounced Herr Herbert Schnoor, the Minister of the Interior of the North Rhine-Westphalia regional government, which is responsible for police and aliens in Bonn. Conveniently for them, Herr Schnoor has been called before a Federal parliamentary committee next week.

The Libyan chief of mission here said Libya would "respect"

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\*Net Rate - Being the actual percentage of interest paid into your account.  
†Equivalent Rate - Gross. Equivalent Rate is what the interest rate is actually worth to a basic rate saver.  
‡Compounded Annual Rate - Being the Gross Equivalent Rate annualised to take account of the compounding of interest paid quarterly.

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**BARCLAYS**



**From Dessa Trevisan, Belgrade**

Mr. Alia, the titular head of

But Albania's response may still depend upon the resolution of a dispute which dates back to

● **PARIS:** The pretender to the Albanian throne, King Leka I, citing the dangers of Soviet expansionism, called on Albanian nationalists yesterday to unite and create "a free and democratic nation" (AP reports).

The Government-judiciary clash could worsen over a

New York (AP) — Ten years after South Vietnam fell to the communists, one-third of those questioned in an ABC News-Washington Post poll did not know which side the US supported in the Vietnam war.

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**NISSAN**



## Belaunde's party faces election defeat by youthful challenger

By Colin Harding

Peru's general election tomorrow promises to be a contest between the social democratic APRA party, Peru's oldest, and the United Left (IU), a coalition of six disparate elements held together by the personality of its presidential candidate, Dr Alfonso Barrantes Lingán.

The ruling Popular Action Party (AP) seems certain to suffer a heavy defeat; the five-year term of President Fernando Belaunde Terry has been marked by rapid economic decline, soaring unemployment and a vicious guerrilla war in the Andes which the Government and armed forces have proved incapable of ending.

A wave of strikes and demonstrations in recent weeks, including one by employees of the electoral authority, has led to fears of "Bolivialization" - runaway inflation and chronic civil disorder.

Opinion polls point to a convincing victory for the APRA candidate, Señor Alan García Pérez, a 35-year-old politician who models himself on Spain's Felipe González.

He has managed to overcome most of the ingrained prejudice against APRA in the armed forces and middle classes, which dates back to the party's revolutionary days in the 1930s and 40s.

He has sought to widen the appeal of a traditionally sectarian party. Even so, he is unlikely to win the 50 per cent

### Peasants mutilated to enforce boycott

Ayacucho, Peru (Reuters) - Maoist guerrillas linked off peasants' fingers and seized a university building in their latest attempt to enforce a boycott of tomorrow's general election. The Sendero Luminoso rebels chopped the fingers of two youths off in Chumqui, 110 miles from here, to warn villagers not to vote. Rebels also briefly occupied the dining hall of the university here.

of the vote that would make him the outright winner tomorrow. Most observers are expecting a run-off against Dr Barrantes in June.

IU's presidential candidate is the coalition's greatest asset. A short, quietly spoken, and dapper lawyer from Cajamarca in the northern Andes, he has been a successful mayor of Lima for the past 18 months in very difficult circumstances, but his popularity extends far beyond the capital.

Dr Barrantes is not a member of any IU's constituent parties and is considerably to the right of many of his supporters. He has gone out of his way to reassure middle-class voters of his moderation, despite a radical election platform which includes a five-year moratorium on repayment of Peru's \$13.5 billion (about £11 billion) foreign debt, a ban on profit remittances abroad, exchange

controls and an extension of public ownership.

The conservative and traditionally interventionist Army has promised to respect the result if IU should win. Such an outcome is, however, unlikely.

Dr Barrantes must be hoping to consolidate the impressive gains made by IU in the 1983 municipal elections by becoming the effective opposition in Congress. He is only 36 and has plenty of time to try again.

The understanding between AP and Peru's other main right-wing party, the Popular Christian Party (PPC), which lasted for most of Señor Belaunde's term, broke down when it came to selecting presidential candidates. The consequent split in the right-wing vote effectively put paid to any remaining hopes of winning at the polls.

The PPC's charismatic leader, Dr Luis Bedoya Reyes, is the stronger of the two, but his popularity is largely confined to the capital. AP's candidate, Señor Javier Alva Orlandini, the party's general secretary, is an old-fashioned political boss without popular appeal.

Whoever takes office on July 28 will have to deal with the Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path) guerrillas, who have shown their contempt for all electoral politics with a campaign of propaganda and sabotage. The Government has prepared a massive security operation, and voting is unlikely to be disrupted much except in the guerrillas' Andean heartland.

## Strike wave as Neves reported near death

From Patrick Knight  
São Paulo

As Brazil's new government faced its first big challenge, a strike by 250,000 metal workers in São Paulo, the precarious health of President-elect Tancredino Neves deteriorated further yesterday.

In an attempt to halt the spread of renewed intestinal infection, he was operated on for the seventh time on Thursday night, his second operation in 48 hours.

It was reported that on Tuesday his heart stopped during an operation to insert a tube to facilitate breathing. Electric shocks were given to revive him. His resistance is rapidly diminishing, his kidneys are weak, and his heart beat is erratic.

The metal workers, once again led by the head of the Workers Party, Senhor Luis Inacio da Silva ("Lula"), one of several hundred banned union leaders reinstated by the new Government, are striking for more frequent, and bigger wage rises, and a shorter working week. All the motor factories, most of which have large export orders, came to a halt, and 3,000 vehicles were not built on Thursday.

In an attempt to consolidate himself in power, Vice-President José Sarney is seeking support from the dominant party in the Democratic Alliance, the Brazilian Democratic Movement (PMDB), and turning his back on former colleagues from the Social Democratic Party, who formed the new Liberal Front Party.

It is anticipated that if Senhor Neves dies, the entire Cabinet will offer its resignation, and that Senator Dornelles, at least, would not be prepared to return to power. The country has become resigned to the prospect of Senhor Neves' death. Police have been put on alert, and leave cancelled.

Although there is a widespread feeling that the full truth about the President-elect's illness has not been revealed, and many people believe he has been the victim of some plot, disturbances are not anticipated if he dies.

But, as the strike in São Paulo illustrates - and others by railway workers, teachers and bus crews are planned - the failure of the new Government to take any initiatives on the planned social pact, is beginning to provoke severe social problems.

Action will have to be taken soon, if more serious conflict is to be averted, whatever happens to Senhor Neves.

## THE ARTS

### Theatre

## Frustration for the sisters



Janet McTeer as Masha

### Three Sisters

#### Royal Exchange, Manchester

This is Casper Wrede's second Chekhov production for the Royal Exchange, and it provoked the same frustrated dissatisfaction that greeted his version of *The Cherry Orchard*.

It has the advantage of an immaculately sensitive new translation by Michael Frayn and contains excellent individual performances. But its separate elements fail to mesh together into a shared dramatic fabric, and not only through the casting of a Norwegian Chebulykin, a Swedish Vershinin, and a Natasha straight out of *Coronation Street*.

The stage itself presents the first obstacle to coherent focus. Of all Chekhov's plays, *Three Sisters* - with its calculated use of the up and down stage areas - is most wedded to the proscenium. When played in the round all kinds of snags start appearing.

Di Seymour's set for the first act, a long table pushed up to the window with morning

sunlight streaming in, is beautiful to look at, but it affords no chance for background comment on foreground action, and nowhere for the lovers to hide away from the main party.

The same problem reappears in the scene of the fire, when the girls have great difficulty in isolating themselves from their maudlin brother, and all we get of the last act's avenue of fir trees is a potted drainpipe that plays old Harry with the sight lines. Add to these factors the long entrances inescapable at the Exchange and it is not surprising that the play should seem to be clicking mechanically over pre-arranged points, rather than organically unfolding.

Most of the performances are well-judged, though Emma Piper is too forceful an Olga and David Ashton's Kulygin has no character left when he discards classroom buffoonery. But in general, the starting features and separate development of each figure are clearly inscribed. Janet McTeer's Masha, coolly withdrawn from the family and looking daggers at her husband, undergoes spectacular eruptions of bad

temper before collapsing upon the departing Vershinin with shrill wails.

There is equal force in the decline of Nicholas Blaine's Andrei from innocent hopefulness (even trying out the role of head of the household) to dull-eyed marital despair.

Christopher Bramwell finds a new vein of comic mockery in the Baron: Sven-Bertil Taube has the charm to provide the boredom of Vershinin's philosophical prophecies. And Esplan Skjoberg brilliantly covers Chebulykin's despairing indifference with the carnival mask of a jovial uncle - even returning from the duel with a broad grin on his face. Unfortunately these performances seldom harmonise.

Mr Frayn's text, without drawing any deliberate attention to itself, endows each character with his own idiom and contains any number of lovely turns of phrase: as when the lovelorn Major is contrasted with Andrei, the lovesick fiddler or the witless Solonyon refers to female philosophy as "full-of-gossipy".

Irving Wardle

### What a Way to Run a Revolution

#### Young Vic

George V's celebrated comment about the General Strike emerges from a giant set of teeth beneath a moustache and crown as the Union Jack unfurls and the cast sing "Jerusalem". This, at the climax of the piece, is an eerily perceptive summation; perhaps the strikers really would have been better advised to "shoot the bobbies".

This musical play by David Benedictus plunders *Hansard* and newspaper reports of the time to assemble an account of the strike which combines sentimental evocations of proletarian solidarity with the more tire-

some brand of costume frolic, almost as though Open University had collided with a production of *The Boyfriend*. Channel 4 will be recording a performance next week.

The chief strength of the author's production consists in the way the entire theatre is transformed into the House of Commons.

Unfortunately the musical element which forms so large a part of the play is pretty woolly. Memorably uncatchy melodies by Guy Wolfenden are complemented by workmanlike lyrics from the play's author and there is plenty of enthusiastic choral work from the company. But when a trio of miners' wives sing the line "tell them how it really was" the realization

dawns that we have been told practically nothing about the condition of the workers whose action precipitated the strike. As the great-grandson of one of the miners who were starved into submission, I feel the exercise is meretricious.

An excellently-drilled cast attack their parts with gusto. Stephen Haggard makes a stern, Mr Pittman's favourite subjects since it allows him to become almost girlish with curiosity and horror.

In fact the endeavours of the film-researchers and the film-crew seemed thoroughly to disprove the opening assertion of Richmond Park's solitariness: within the space of 30 minutes we saw, either filmed or interviewed, a resident artist, two Japanese ladies looking for nuts, a gaggle of infant dancers, sportsmen, school parties, a disabled racer who plays the bagpipes at twilight, a number of squirrel and pigeon-fanciers, and a man who records the sounds of the variety of birds which no doubt, like the humans, think of this place as specifically their own.

Martin Cropper

### Television

Just Another Day (BBC 2) abandoned the lives of industry for that great source of pastoral contentment, Richmond Park - by London but not of it. In a spirit but quite without the sedition of Nature in its rawer state, "It's really a slow situation", as one of its keepers put it, and across its emerald or sometimes muddy banks come the solitary walkers who find in this glorified backyard food for both consolation and reflection. There are some who seem oddly drawn to the same spot since it is, as one South African woman explained, "a place for being on one's own".

Its relatively secluded nature ensured, of course, that this could not be one of the most animated programmes in a series which has prided itself upon diverse scenes of human ingenuity or eccentricity. There is not much you can do with squirrels or stags, at least with a camera, which has not been done.

But John-Pitman tried very hard: he found a

lady who named her dog after Vita Sackville-West (the sex of the creature was not disclosed), and by a great stroke of luck he discovered "a scientist and beetle fan" - this last being one of Mr Pittman's favourite subjects since it allows him to become almost girlish with curiosity and horror.

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Peter Ackroyd

### Concerts

#### LSO/Abbado

#### Festival Hall

There have been some doubts about the coherence of the scheme which underlies the LSO's current festival, Mahler, Vienna and the Twentieth Century, but Thursday night's concert hung together very well indeed. There was Mahler's most forward-looking symphony, the Seventh; there was Webern's Op 10, those dedicated echoes of a Mahlerian sound-world which actually quote from Mahler's symphonies; and there was Boulez at his most febrile and intensely extrovert in *Notations*, a work which, as Paul Griffiths reported here, has more Mahlerian allusions in its unpublished and as yet unorchestrated other sections.

#### Hugh Tinney

#### Queen Elizabeth Hall

The young Dublin-born pianist Hugh Tinney has hit the glory trail recently, winning a couple of major competitions. This recital, in fact, was part of his first prize at the Santander Competition, and he amply demonstrated the talent which impressed the judges there.

Mahler's Seventh forward-looking? It used to be acceptable just to dismiss it as the composer repeating himself (Hans Redlich's view) or to wave it by saying that it "fails to sustain a consistent level of interest". But its acceptance of its own disjunction, its more than passing sense of harmonic chaos (it certainly will not do to describe it as the programme did in "E minor", since its tortuous tonal plan is more complex and its essential mood is the major) now seem prophetic of later visions.

And with a conductor as sure as Claudio Abbado of its every dark nook and cranny, the dream world of the symphony becomes, especially in the three central movements, a frighteningly coherent nightmare. The sliding triplets of the scherzo and the deadpan music-box tunes of the second *Nachtmusik*.

just sufficiently to glint through the defuge of demisemiquavers. The 24 Preludes concluded Tinney's programme, by which time he seemed to have become accustomed to the hall's acoustics, perhaps less warm and supportive than he had expected. Earlier, in Scriabin's turbulent Sonata No 5, his dynamic range had sounded rather restricted, and his reading seemed too cool for music littered with markings like "estatico" and "con furia". But Scriabin's shifting tempi and complex textures were certainly cogently expressed.

Similarly, in Albeniz's *El*

were both eerily convincing, even though the LSO's playing was never quite subtle or atmospheric enough to do justice to Abbado's direction.

The most striking moments were the sudden collapses: the extraordinary start of the recapitulation in the first movement, when the development's climax is cut off at its height, like changing channels; and a similar moment in the finale, when an open, triumphant E major is attained, only to be swept away in blood-curdling G flat.

But at the end, after the strident vulgarity of the close, the sounds that remain are precisely those that Webern took - the glint of guitar and mandolin, the call of cow bells - in order to work towards the music of a new age.

Nicholas Kenyon

## Radio

### A tribute to serious music by Radio 4

I have a feeling - although I did not see the piece in question - that Channel 4's *God Rot Turnbridge Wells* may have added weight to the suggestion I made last week that radio's "unimportance" in the eyes of some actually protects us, its listeners, from a number of fairly dire experiences.

No risk that Messrs John Osborne and Tony Palmer will offer their talents to radio's Hand of celebrations. Instead we have the inestimable good fortune to be obliged to make do with Messrs Stanley Sadie and Alan Haydock whose *The Great and Good Mr Handel* (Radio 4) filled three afternoons last week in the space normally occupied by *Woman's Hour*.

Mr Sadie's script gave us an excellent overview of Handel's life from his emergence (despite his father, who would have put him to the law) as a child prodigy, through his rapid rise to fame in London and his eventual decline into blindness and death.

I'm not sure that Carl Duerig's playing of the part of Handel was really large enough - he sounded rather like an elderly German professor. But what he lacked in sonority was more than made up for by a truly splendid selection of music, calculated to leave us in no doubt of the composer's colossal gifts and drawn not only from the items we already know all too well, but from a good deal of the less familiar though no less impressive repertoire.

These illustrations were blessedly ample - most of them substantial sequences with a relatively sparing use of voice over. Although this was a proper celebration for a three hundredth anniversary, though how odd that it should fall to the Unmusic Programme, as it were, to serve up such a feast.

In view of this, I would like to propose that Radio 4 should do a similar service for J. S. Bach and maybe even for Donizetti Scarlatti before the tercenary is out since it appears that Radio 3 has no intention of filling that particular gap.

The year has and will continue to be marked, I gather, simply by playing a good deal more of the music than usual.

All right, and in the case of Bach, for instance, the decision to broadcast all the Leipzig Cantatas on their appropriate days - albeit the Sunday ones go out at 8am! - is especially welcome.

And yet neither this, nor all the other music is really enough: 1685-1985 is an occasion, but on Radio 3 it is being allowed to pass with very little sense of occasion. February 23 saw a relay of the Handel Tercentenary Concert; March 21 brought a performance of *The St Matthew Passion* direct from Leipzig. Perfectly appropriate, of course, but it calls for little imaginative or innovative effort to link up with the events other people have already organised, any more than it does to get together the tapes and discs necessary for the cantata cycle.

Radio 3 has so far created no events distinctively its own in honour of three - or at any rate two and a half - giants in the history of music. A great birthday does require a birthday party, but it has been left to people who have already organised for only one of the participants and seven weeks late at that. But there, I'm afraid that Radio 3's approach to the whole tercentenary seems to me rather unfortunately in keeping with the network's present character non-celebratory.

In other ways, too, Radio 4 has led with a good example. Denying beautiful friends... (April 8; producer, Clair Selicr-Grey) recorded an entrancing correspondence between a young violinist to the Halle, Audrey Napier-Smith, and the poet John Macfie, then approaching the end of his life. June Knox-Mawer talked gently to Ms Napier-Smith who had clearly become a marvellous figure of romantic fantasy for Macfie.

Earlier that same day Margaret Percy, known chiefly for her penetrating documentaries about Northern Ireland, celebrated *The Secret Life of the Circus* (Radio 4; producer, Sharon Bonoff) and took us deep into that extraordinary world in which the glitter so thinly conceals the sweat and effort that these days barely keep the show going literally on the road.

David Wade

## Hu cancels briefing on eve of tour

From Mary Lee  
Peking

Mr Hu Yaobang, the Chinese Communist Party secretary-general, yesterday left for Australia, his first trip to a Western country, declaring that China did not intend to compete with anyone in the South Pacific region. His two-week visit will also take him to New Zealand, Western Samoa, Fiji and Papua New Guinea.

Mr Hu was to have held a 15-minute press conference before leaving. Its cancellation led to suggestions that it was probably to avoid further questions about a proposed courtesy call to Chinese ports by the US Navy.

Diplomats say he committed a gaffe when he told Australian and New Zealand journalists on Wednesday that China had demanded that vessels armed only with conventional weapons be sent, and that the Americans had agreed.

Some analysts argue that the remark was intended to put Mr Hu in a good light in New Zealand, where the Prime Minister, Mr David Lange, precipitated a recent dispute with Washington by refusing to allow the US Navy into his country for an Anzus military exercise because they might be carrying nuclear weapons. Mr Hu, however, says he will not raise the issue in New Zealand.

● PERTH: The Australian Prime Minister, Mr Bob Hawke, yesterday said that Mr Hu's visit to the mineral-rich Pilbara region would lead to the first significant foreign investment by China (AP reports).

## Ortega hits at Reagan 'jungle law'

Managua (Reuters) - President Daniel Ortega has told world leaders that a proposal by President Reagan to end Nicaragua's guerrilla war admits US involvement and is based on the law of the jungle.

Señor Ortega said in a letter to heads of State in Latin America and Western Europe that the proposal last week constituted dictatorial interference.

The letter, made available to reporters on Thursday, said the proposal was a recognition that Washington "is carrying out a war against Nicaragua through a mercenary army it organised. To accept this ultimatum would be nothing else than to accept the law of the jungle to international relations."

In an apparent attempt to win congressional approval for \$14 million (£11 million) in aid to right-wing Nicaraguan rebels, President Reagan told Managua's leftist Sandinista Government that US aid for the rebels would not be used for arms on condition that the Sandinistas started peace talks.

● PANAMA CITY: Diplomats from nine countries went back to the bargaining table yesterday trying to resolve the differences between Nicaragua and three of its neighbours (AP reports).

It is going to be a long, long day. Señor José María Cabeza, Panama's Deputy Foreign Minister, said referring to the second session of a two-day Contadora peace conference.

As the diplomats broke up for lunch after only three hours of talks on Thursday, representatives of Honduras and El Salvador accused Nicaragua of raising obstacles to an agreement on terms of verifying any eventual peace treaty.

## Police break up Chile protests over murders

Santiago (AP) - Police used water cannon, tear gas and baton charges to disperse demonstrators protesting at the unsolved murders of three communist activists whose bodies were found last month. At least 26 people were reported wounded.

The National Workers' Command had called for children to stay home from school and workers to join union leaders in a march on Thursday to the Supreme Court, but there was little public response.

In a Santiago slum area, gunmen in an unmarked car shot a demonstrator aged 23, in the stomach, but hospital officials said he was stable.

Earlier, about 20 people gathered to applaud 16 union leaders marching on the court.

### Coup rumour in Guatemala puts leader's trip off

Guatemala City (Reuters) - General Oscar Humberto Mejia Victores, the Guatemalan head of state, yesterday cancelled a trip abroad because of coup rumours after the introduction of a unpopular austerity measures. He was due to leave tomorrow for the Vatican, Egypt and Israel.

A business group called the New Right yesterday urged the General to stay in Guatemala to deal with protests at economic reforms including tax increases of up to 50 per cent.

Señor Pedro Lamport, a leader of the powerful Chamber of Industry, Agriculture and Finance, said on Friday that if the tax increases were not scrapped his group would call strikes.

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## Admiral failed to report on murder

Taipei (Reuters, AFP) - Taiwan's military intelligence chief yesterday admitted that he made a serious mistake when he failed to report to his superiors on the murder of a dissident writer in California last October.

Vice-Admiral Wang Hai-ling, who is charged with the murder of Mr Henry Liu, told a military tribunal he did not order the killing.

He said Chen Chi-li, aged 41, a Taiwanese gang leader, told him a week after the murder that Mr Liu had been killed by members of his gang. Admiral

Wang said he did not report this to his Ministry of Defence superiors. "My biggest mistake is failing to report."

Chen testified last week that he was ordered by Admiral Wang to kill Mr Liu, whom he described as a traitor and triple-agent working at the same time for Peking, Taipei and Washington.

Admiral Wang has admitted having told the gangster to teach Mr Liu a lesson.

"I know it was very wrong to use gangsters in our mainland operations. I never thought that would set up this trap to get me

involved in the murder," he said.

"Maybe morally I have a certain responsibility, but legally I should not be responsible for his (Mr Chen's) personal act, which was beyond what I could foresee," he said.

Two of his deputies, Major-General Hu Yi-min and Colonel Chen Hu-men, are also on trial before the tribunal as accessories. All three have pleaded not guilty, but face the death penalty if convicted.

Chen Chi-li and Wu Tun, another gang leader, were jailed for life by a civilian court this week for Mr Liu's murder.

سكنا عن الاموال

Home-made rockets shut Tokyo airport

Note asks UK to extend stay

Chinese visa

Aids danger

Seoul riot

Steele hold

Short memo

In Gulf War N mediation

Asasone film mic reform



## SPORTING DIARY

Simon Barnes

### Zola: j'accuse

"My final wish," said Zola Budd in a statement that was read out for her at a press conference in January, "is to be treated and accepted as any other British athlete." One of the characteristics of ordinary British athletes is that they spend a good deal of their time in Britain. This is not the case with Miss Budd. On my latest count she has spent a total of five weeks in this country since she left Britain for the Olympic Games and disaster last July.

After the Olympics she went back to South Africa. She next returned to London for the press conference already mentioned on January 3, and stayed a couple of days. She came back to England again a few days before her first winter race here on January 25, and stayed until February 17. She ran twice at Cusack, once at Ipswich and once at Birkhead, where a demonstration ended her part in the race. She also passed through England twice on her way to and from the world cross-country championship in Lisbon, spending about 36 hours here on the way out and 48 on the way back. Now she is in South Africa again, and will be there until June, as she has announced.

It is possible to confuse the issue, as some in the sporting world do, by pointing out that Daley Thompson spends a great deal of his time in California. In fact, he has spent 95 per cent of his time in London since the Olympics and in any case he is a British-born cockney who did not acquire his passport in a 10-day rush.

### Customized

Rajiv Gandhi has issued a special prime ministerial decree on behalf of the Indian cricketer Ravi Shastri. Shastri was the "champion of champions", a typically understated award from the Australian festival of pajama cricket, the so-called "World Championship of Cricket". India won it, of course, and Shastri, as a reward for his accomplishment, was presented with a fancy motor car. The only snag was that importing it into India would cost him £50,000 in duty. Now Mr Gandhi has decided to let him off.

After 650 league appearances, England international Steve Whitworth, now with Mansfield Town, had never scored a goal. Then, a couple of weeks ago, he hit his first. A week later, he scored again. Someone at last had discovered his penalty-taking potential.

### Cantab criteria

Oxford men, roseate after their tenth successive Boat Race win last weekend, are beginning to wonder if there is something seriously amiss with their rivals' selection methods. Philip, a member of the Oxford crew, had previously been dropped by Cambridge. Two of the men who rowed in the reserves race and won for the Oxford boat, Isis, had previously been at Cambridge. Was this a matter of poaching? No, neither Cowley nor Sudbury had even got near selection in their Cambridge days: they were kept as strictly college oarsmen. Then there is the case of Richard Budgett, who won an Olympic gold medal in the coxed fours at Los Angeles last summer. He was at Cambridge but was never selected to row in the Boat Race, not even for the Cambridge reserve crew, Goldie.

Floundering in the second division, Wolves have taken on the redoubtable Rachael Heyhoe Flint, former England women's cricket captain, as a promotions consultant. Mrs Flint says: "It's like being asked to join the Titanic in mid-voyage."

### Time and tide

The sculls head of the river race is held today, with more than 400 spindly single seaters skimming along the Boat Race course in reverse, from Mortlake to Putney. But Stephen Redgrave, heir apparent to the mantle of Chris Baillic, a member of the Olympic gold medal winning coxed four, and tipped as a possible future single scull gold medal winner, will not be there. He didn't get his entry in on time.

### Sweet runner

Six cans of Coca Cola enabled Finnish driver Rauno Aaltonen to complete the African Safari Rally this week. With his support team miles away, the clutch of his Opel Manta began to slip badly as he was struggling through a remote semi-desert section of the final leg. Aaltonen's solution was to pour an entire six pack of Coke into the clutch housing. He got home in fourth place. "Anything with sugar will do it," he said.

### BARRY FANTONI



# Arms: a Third World warning

by Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan

The superpowers are holding nuclear arms talks in Geneva under the looming shadow of a prospective new nuclear arms race in space. This threat of high-technology rivalry has crowded everything else off the stage. America and the Soviet Union are in danger of mesmerizing themselves with their exclusive contest and are not giving enough attention to what their arms race is doing to attitudes beyond their own two European-based alliances.

There are a range of potential users of nuclear weapons whose purposes have little to do with the old East-West confrontation. A "Star Wars" protective shield might, for example, have to work overtime if Israel or South Africa were to try to use the bomb in order to hold their enemies at bay a little longer. Others might want it to warn off rivals with possible plans for a bomb of their own.

A pro-nuclear attitude has taken a strong hold in the Third World not because the devastation of a nuclear war is underestimated, but precisely because it is understood very well.

If the five nuclear powers, the Soviet Union, the United States, Britain, France and China, are not going to stop this dangerous game, others are going to play too. Nuclear calculations at this point get caught up with deeper historical frustrations about the structure of power in the world.

Nuclear armers and disarmers in the First World seem blithely ignorant of the "democratization" of the bomb that is just round the corner. They are like the first road-users arguing about whether it is safe to allow each other an extra Rolls-Royce and not realizing there is a whole fleet of Model T Fords that will make a nonsense of their elite traffic code. The Third World bomb, and soon perhaps the terrorist bomb, is here. The question is whether the Americans and Russians should take notice of it in their own negotiations or whether there is so little they can now do to restrain its proliferation that they might just as well leave their heads in the Star Wars clouds.

When keeping the bomb to themselves was just a matter of sitting tight on the technical know-how and the uranium or plutonium, the nuclear powers were in rare agreement with each other about wanting to keep their monopoly that way. Now that the rather mundane and accessible technology for a simple bomb is out, and keeping countries out of the nuclear club also involves dealing with them politically, the

superpowers are a lot less certain about which way to move.

But they are going to have to do something. In September the 124 signatory states to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty gather in Geneva. They are in angry mood. Under article 6, the three nuclear signatories, Britain, the Soviet Union and the US, have to demonstrate progress on disarmament if the other countries are to stay militarily non-nuclear. If countries are to be led back from the brink there must be an effective international initiative that imposes concessions on both nuclear and non-nuclear powers.

Real disarmament concessions by all nuclear powers - meaning deep cuts in armaments to a level of minimum deterrence - must be matched by much tougher inspection regulations by the International Atomic Energy Agency to police the supposedly peaceful uses of nuclear power by all countries. And if the crucial concession to limit proliferation has to be a test ban treaty for both nuclear and still non-nuclear powers that, given the alternative of a new unruly generation of nuclear states, is a nettle the superpowers must grasp.

The author, former UN High Commissioner for Refugees, is president of the Groupe de Bellere.

## Peter Lennon on a literary upsurge that looks beyond the Troubles



Longley: from Dublin dilettante to regional Arts Council director. He styles himself "a mutant Irishman" and is vehement that he is no mere versifying journalist



Simmons: university lecturer who tours the country singing his own ballads



Mahon: at last we were part of world history again



Paulin: an English father, Belfast mother and an Indian Catholic wife. It all adds up to a polemical republicanism



Muldoon: accused of 'cashing in on the situation'

In 1984 the literary event of the year was the publication of two volumes of poetry by Seamus Heaney. This year an Arts Council report has made it clear that this exceptional fecundity is not limited to Heaney. Northern Ireland, for long artistically a provincial backwater, is experiencing a cultural explosion, mainly evident in the works of 43 playwrights and up to a dozen poets.

Drama, being a garrulous medium, weds naturally with political and social themes. But poetry, more contemplative and fastidious, has special problems in this kind of climate. The poets of Northern Ireland face expectations from their readers - to "bear witness", even to be "war poets" - which do not normally confront a poet.

There are five established poets who are persistently faced with such challenges, but they are conspicuous for other reasons. All, roughly, of Heaney's generation and living somewhat in Heaney's shadow, their artistic development has interlocked from the beginning. They are not a product of "the Troubles", but of the Education Act of 1947 which brought working-class Catholics and Protestants to university and created, in the 1960s, a political and intellectual ferment in the province.

They are now dispersed throughout Britain but remain in close contact. It is a continuation of the time spent in pubs with Seamus Heaney (then lecturing at Queen's), when they would offer each other bits of bardic paper and tell each other "it was great or it was shit". With them, representing a divided province, questions of identity are not just matters of aesthetic speculation.

Tom Paulin (aged 36), the most polemically "republican" (but not nationalist) of them all, is actually an Englishman, born of a Leeds headmaster and a Belfast mother. A session at Rosetta Protestant primary school in Belfast was enough to work the sweet alchemy, however. He then thoroughly confused his trail by marrying a Northern Ireland Catholic who is also Indian. He now lives and teaches in Nottingham.

Michael Longley (46), a staunchly bearded man with the winning ways appropriate to his role of non-sectarian Santa Claus (he is a director of the region's Arts Council), confesses to a sense of deprivation after even short absences from the province, although he has no familial hinterland there. Both his parents came from Clapham.

His acknowledged mentor, Derek Mahon, 44, son of a Belfast shipyard engineer, now lives in London. Like Longley, he chose Dublin's Trinity College for higher education. This was not too disorientating since the two Protestants were simply experiencing the flip side of sectarian apartheid. Catholics were forbidden entry to Trinity, not by the college authorities but by the Catholic Archbishop of Dublin.

About this time the grandson of

## Poetry, the other Northern Ireland ferment

the Protestant lord mayor of Derry, James Simmons (52), spent a few years looking for enlightenment in Nigeria and returned to Coleraine in 1967, just in time for the social upheaval which turned the province into a kind of Grand Guignol theatre. Simmons, who is a senior lecturer at the New University of Ulster, is also a baladeur and travels the country singing his own compositions.

Longley admits to having been taken aback by the vehemence of the counter-attack to the civil rights movement of the late 1960s, and even more so by the callous fury of the Provisionalist response. His earlier experience in Belfast had been that of a busy schoolboy and then a gratifying period as a dilettante in Dublin turning out four or five poems a day: "Now I'm lucky if I write four or five a year". Suddenly everything had become hideously complicated.

"A funny kind of thing happened," says Derek Mahon, "Northern Ireland was on the TV screens every day and there were journalists from Paris and New York and in a strange kind of way people in this backwater, which had been totally ignored for so long, started to enjoy the attention, and we preened ourselves a little. At last, or once again, we were part of world history as we had been in the days of the Somme."

The price was exacted, of course, in the usual way, in lives. "People felt for so long that they were not spoken for," Mahon continues. "Now there was also concern for the lost generations in between. This created an urgent burrowing into the past: the reprinting of books; old photographs even, from the 1930s and 1950s and Northern Ireland achieved the sense of having a culture every bit as real as that of Southern Ireland."

"The island as a whole has come alive," Longley says. "Publishing is booming North and South. There is a kind of national self-confidence which you have not got in England." But a self-consciousness is imposed on that confidence. Before 1968 it was possible to be just an Irish poet, or simply a poet writing in English. Now people were expected to be "Ulster" poets: to say you were an "Irish" poet might suggest some element of rejection of Unionist "Ulster", while to declare you were British could be to renege on your Irish culture.

Among loyalists this search for identity can become particularly *rechereché*. Some loyalists, in response to the realization that they feel part of neither Britain nor Ireland, are working on the proposition that they are descended from the Scottish *cruthin* people, a coastal tribe whose domain encompassed both Antrim and Scotland's shores. This theory would mean they are indigenous Irish, not settlers, and prove in effect there were Presbyterians in Ulster before the Catholics, indeed before Christ. It also, unfortunately, makes them nationalists.

This problem of cultural identity can be a damn nuisance, Mahon says. "But in a funny way," he admits, "that is also the job - the answering of that question."

Longley - who refers to himself as a "mutant Irishman" - says that their agreed response to the question of bearing witness was that they were determined not to become "versifying journalists". Mahon, a "secular, republican socialist" who like them all is opposed to violence, said that he struggled with himself for a long time about whether he was going to write about the daily tragedy or ignore it. "In the end," he said, "you cannot tell yourself what to write. If I found myself writing about it I let it happen. Poetry simply contributes to the maelstrom of discourse. But I don't think it should be written with an end in view other than itself."

One of Longley's poems commemorates 10 linen workers murdered for being Protestant.

When they massacred the ten linen workers  
There fell on the road beside them  
Wallets, small change, and a set of dentures;  
Blood, food particles, the bread,  
the wine.

Paulin found a violent car accident in which his wife was involved as a subject for poetry as any political killing. But in *Desecration* he writes about those inescapably binding provincial family connections:

All those family histories  
are like sucking a polo mint -  
You're pulled right through  
a tight wet sphincter  
that loses you.

Although concerned not to capitalize on the community's wounds

they do not always escape accusations of "cashing in on the situation" which was one critic's response to Paul Muldoon's long poem, *The More a Man Has the More a Man Wants*. At one point he describes the death of a councillor, victim of a booby trap.

Once they collect his smithereens  
he doesn't quite add up.  
They're shy of a foot, and a calf  
which stems  
from his left shoe like a severely  
pruned-back shrub.

Jimmy Simmons felt the challenge of bearing witness more directly. He reacted to Seamus Heaney's *North*. "Heaney announced a kind of tribal position," Simmons said. "It was an interesting position, and honest to admit that the ties of the tribes were stronger than your liberal, university education."

Simmons feels he has the task of "filling the gaps." "People," he said, "it is a stupid attitude. In Northern Ireland they have, if you take a balanced view, a good record in comparison with countries like the United States." He wrote a poem "which is more of a drama".

*Lament for a Dead Policeman:*  
The distinctive feature  
of Irish life, politically  
he could spell it out rightly -  
Isn't just bigotry, it's the easy  
toleration of violence by any side,  
moral confusion, fearful cruelty,  
acceptance of crime becoming  
collusion.

The Troubles, he says, help to focus the emotions. But he finds the title Northern Ireland poet "too heavy on the tongue", and prefers the label "Irish" poet.

Even the poets who live in Northern Ireland permanently have no sense of being on a front line. When Simmons was asked by the BBC to write a ballad about a particularly devastating bomb attack in the village of Claudy he had a problem.

"Living in Coleraine and Portrush I had seen nothing of this kind of thing," he said. "I had to go and do research. But I was quite pleased I did it." His ballad, *Claudy*, is constantly sung in the North.

There is no slackening of the literary surge in Northern Ireland. Blackstaff Press on March 14 published the work of a new raft of young poets.

Paulin puts this energy to the fact that Ireland has broken free of the Anglican influence. "The Eliot school, with its insidious kind of *via media*, which had its source in a certain form of civility, but is an increasing source of a certain kind of deadness."

Longley, with apologies for the geological metaphor, explains it like this: "Ireland is volcanic; England is sedimentary."

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## Philip Howard Mandarins and mechanicals

Philippos Tell me, Josephus, are all the children in our ideal state to be given the same education? Josephus: By no means, O Philippos. If a man were to give the same training to a race-horse, a cart-horse, and a Shetland pony, you would say that as a horse-trainer he was as foolishly egalitarian as Frodo Baggins, and that his notions of horse fodder were as barbarous as those of Diomedes. Each child must be given the education suited to his or her talents and prospects.

Philip: How shall we decide this? Josephus: The golden children, who are destined to be Guardians, politicians, and senior civil servants, shall study the academic and intellectually demanding subjects to fit them for their role as wise and incorruptible philosopher kings. Children of silver, and iron, and brass, will be taught more suitable practical and manual skills.

Philip: What subjects shall we teach them in these national curricula that we are laying down? For our discussion is on no trifling matter, but on the right way to educate our children.

Josephus: The golden children, who are destined to be Guardians, may study literary subjects, such as Latin and Greek and other foreign languages, and music, and advanced mathematics, and even English literature. Though there is no harm in even then acquiring manual skills.

The children of brass and iron will study practical subjects to promote the state's ability to seize the challenging opportunities of a technological and competitive world.

Philip: You have me there, O Josephus. What sort of a curriculum do you have in mind for the children of brass and iron? Woodwork? The School of Mechanics? Coal-mining?

Josephus: If they show an aptitude for it, but in the new world we are moving into they are more likely to be working with calculators, keyboards and computers, and all the miraculous instruments of the technological and information revolutions.

Philip: But is not this just complicated typing and dressmaking, vocational training, and banalistic? I thought the point of the new technology was that it reduced work.

Josephus: You may call it banalistic if you want, though I consider that a snobbish and elitist term. Our schools are too remote from industry and commerce, and tend to look down their academic noses at technical work. We must connect them to the labour market, and the imperatives of job creation.

Philip: Shall we teach the children of brass and iron to read and write, as well as to use computers?

Josephus: Don't come your old Socratic iron on me, Philippos. Of course we shall teach them to read and write. But we shall do it better than at present, with more emphasis on correct formal grammar and spelling, and less on self-expression and poetry. There are good precedents for saying that poetry is an unsuitable subject to be taught in school.

Philip: It seems a pity, but I suppose you are right. Would you not agree that poetry, and for that matter Greek and Latin and Chaucer and Racine and Dante and Euclid, are good

preparations for putting up cheerfully with the lack of entrepreneurial earning-power in the marketplace to which they condemn you? Philippos: I think it is a very wet argument, Philippos.



Josephus: Bad spelling is slovenly, like egg stains on one's tie. It may not matter in itself, but it is a symptom of the second rate, and gives a bad impression.

Philip: Samuel Johnson had notoriously dirty linen. He was a pretty good speller for his time. But what mattered about him was the breadth of his knowledge, acquired first of all at his local dame's school and then the grammar school. Can we not train the children to look up words like *eschscholtzia* in the dictionary?

Josephus: But you do agree, don't you, O Philippos, that we should teach all our children to write proper English. Philip: Yes, I do. But surely when we speak of an educated person, we mean somebody who loves wisdom: all wisdom, not just the fashionable or commercially exploitable sorts.

Philip: That kind of philosophical training will be available for the golden children at places like Cheltenham Ladies College and Eton College.

Philip: But how will these golden children get to these schools?

Josephus: Why do you think they are called golden children? They will pay for it. Their parents will make sacrifices to send them there.

Philip: But what happens when the brass and iron classes produce a clever golden child? How can they afford or even want to send him away to such a place?

Josephus: No doubt these academics are going to have to improve their scholarship.

Philip: The trouble with Plato is that he wrote like an angel, but his ideas led down the primrose path to Hegel, Marx, Hitler and other forms of the closed society. Education is not principally about equipping children for a technological and competitive world.

## John O'Sullivan

# Echoes of Dreyfus in the subway

New York  
My first encounter with the Dreyfus case in school lessons left me completely puzzled. It seemed on the surface to be a dispute about whether Dreyfus had been a spy and traitor. Yet most of his defenders, all of his critics seemed relatively uninterested in the fact of his guilt or innocence. They were determined to believe him guilty (or innocent) for quite other reasons - to preserve the honour of the French army, or to establish that no Jew could be a real Frenchman, or to halt the rise of the monarchist right, or to achieve any number of things that could not reasonably be decided by whether Dreyfus's conviction was upheld or overturned.

Dreyfus, poor man, had been reduced to a symbol in a political struggle. In New York if nowhere else, the Goetz affair is today taking on the same symbolic character. To oversimplify greatly, New York politics is a struggle which a conservative white middle and lower-middle class is pitted against an uneasy alliance of affluent white liberals and black and Hispanic political leaders. Since blacks and Hispanics account for more than 50 per cent of New York's population, why doesn't this alliance regularly triumph? The reasons are twofold. Many blacks and Hispanics sympathize more with their white conservative neighbours than with their media-appointed "leaders", particularly on issues like crime. Furthermore, the two communities tend to be politically apathetic, except when aroused by racial issues.

Bernard Goetz was arrested in January after shooting and injuring four blacks, who he said were about to mug him. The incident initially threw the political pattern into disarray by uniting the subway-riding whites and blacks in noisy support of his action. So powerful was this public reaction that minority politicians, and white liberals generally, remained silent. It was in this atmosphere that the first grand jury determined to the applause of the district attorney and local politicians - that Goetz should be charged only with a minor gun offence.

The first battle was over: who could claim the honorable title of victim. To the subway-riding class there was no doubt. Goetz was the victim who struck back and the four youths his tormentors. Goetz was also white, however,

and the youths black. The idea that a white who shot four blacks could be a victim made white liberals very uneasy. So, since Goetz couldn't really be a victim, and since no social situation is complete without one, liberal opinion gradually concluded that the youths had to be victims.

Black politicians supported this trend by detecting racism. Opinion polls duly showed that black support for Goetz, though still substantial, had declined considerably.

Slowly, the conventional battle-lines, reformed. If a newspaper incautiously described the youths as "Goetz's victims", it would be inundated with letters from the subway conservatives protesting at this liberal usage. Goetz, first seen as the people's representative against the muggers, quickly became their spokesman against the liberal establishment.

Worse was to come. Goetz soon began to act out the role of public defender with speeches and meetings. Someone had to do what he had done, he would explain. They didn't protect the citizen any more, they let thugs roam free, they cared more for the technical legal rights of the criminal than for obtaining justice for the victim.

Goetz may even have embarrassed the legal authorities into taking further action against him. In order to reopen a case before a second grand jury the district attorney, under New York law, must present new evidence not available to the first. If strong evidence that formed the basis of the second grand jury (which subsequently indicted Goetz on a charge of attempted murder) rests heavily on the testimony of two of the shot youths. But was their testimony genuinely new? It had always been available, but for the first grand jury the district attorney had been unwilling to exchange it for immunity. Now that was on offer. Did that make it new in law? Lawyers are uneasy.

The battle-lines are conventionally drawn, but the battle cries are unusual. Liberals declare stoutly that Goetz shot four people and that legal technicalities cannot be allowed to obstruct justice. The subway conservatives mutter that there are extenuating circumstances in Goetz's case and ask despairingly: why should the law only be used against victims?





His an  
Dreyfus  
ibway

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## PASSAGE THROUGH INDIA

Rarely, if ever, does a prime minister personally visit a country to reverse a deterioration in bilateral relations. When it does happen it is an unmistakable expression of the high regard in which one holds the other. This will clearly be the case when Mrs Thatcher arrives in New Delhi today. The task she faces is the restoration of the special link that has recently bound together the two Commonwealth countries. To do so, she will require all the tact and talent she can muster.

In the space of just five months the state of Indo-British relations has collapsed from the warm mutual affection the two women prime ministers shared for each other into the correct but cold formality of routine diplomacy. The process perhaps began last June when militant Sikhs in Britain voiced through this country's press and media their hostility to the Indian government's storming of the Golden Temple. Angered by Mrs Gandhi's government resorting to military action and the subsequent damage to the temple, several British Sikhs predicted, without any special foresight, that the event would augur ill for her. When, just months later, history bore them out, the Indian government was convinced they had had a part in it; in their eyes, the celebratory reaction of British Sikhs said it all. It was then that Indian wrath really broke upon the British for not taking effective measures to control and check such Sikh elements.

The response of the British government was to both publicly and repeatedly condemn the Sikh reactions of joy to Mrs Gandhi's assassination while also assiduously working behind the scenes to soothe the hurt and pain with solicitations of sympathy. It was not enough. The Indians demanded strong action against the Sikhs; but the problem for the British government was that they were neither able to prove their suspicions nor, with the passage of time, rise above them.

Yet, while the British government could do nothing more, its failure to act was mistaken by the Indians as unwillingness to do so. And, early this year, the latter began to translate into action their impatience with the British response. In rapid succession the scheduled visits of three cabinet rank ministers to New Delhi were postponed. Then, more tellingly, British contracts began to fall by the wayside, as decisions were postponed and at least one commitment to purchase £85 million of Westland helicopters seemingly reneged upon.

Soon, the bit began to bite, and steps to repair the relationship were set in motion by the Foreign Office. At first it was a low key strategy. Mr Michael Foot with his personal links with India's ruling family, was pressed into service and wrote directly to Mr Rajiv Gandhi. Coincidentally, the British police at home adopted a "hands on" policy towards Sikhs, stepping

up surveillance of them, and refusing permission for their processions and marches through London. The Indians noticed the change but were not particularly impressed.

Last month, the British government played its trump card: Mrs Thatcher herself stepped in. A brief stop over in Delhi on her way back from south east Asia was hurriedly arranged. In the Indian capital her mission will be to flatter the Indians into accepting that Britain has done, and is doing, all it can to contain Sikh militancy. Her method will be to try to create between herself and Mr Gandhi some of the personal relationship that existed between herself and his late mother.

Yet Mrs Thatcher can at best only half succeed. In Rajiv Gandhi she will find an unsentimental prime minister conscious of the economic realities underlying India's relationships with Britain. He will be willing to reactivate the sidelined contracts providing the terms are still right. Close economic ties should therefore be easy to restore. The stalled ministerial visits will also, no doubt, soon go ahead. But the personal equation will be a different matter. Margaret Thatcher is, nearing 60; Rajiv Gandhi is only 40. A generation of tastes, ideas, and experience divides them. The two countries can settle back into a relationship which is solid, and steady; even if it is impersonal, it will be good to get back to that level.

## BETWEEN LIFE AND DEATH

On Monday, Karen Quinlan will have been lying unconscious in a New Jersey nursing home for ten years. It is accepted by everyone connected with the case that she is never going to wake up from the deep coma she fell into in 1975. She is not the longest survivor in what is technically known as a persistent vegetative state: an eighteen-year coma was recorded in Scotland in the 1970s, and in 1978 there occurred the death of a middle-aged woman in Florida who had never regained consciousness after an appendix operation she had undergone as a child 37 years earlier, not long before Pearl Harbour. But Miss Quinlan is the most famous victim of this kind, because of the legal battles fought in the early months of her coma over whether to disconnect her breathing apparatus, and because the controversy drew public attention to the dilemmas raised by the growing ability of medical technology to keep patients alive far beyond any point where benefit can easily be discerned.

Medical knowledge still has its limitations, as was shown in Miss Quinlan's own case, when her parents won their court claim to have the respirator turned off because they felt it was causing her pain. Everyone had expected her to die as a result but she went on breathing, though she remains wholly dependent on feeding through a tube and on incessant nursing care. If there were a sure means of predicting whether recovery is possible in such cases at the start, the ethical difficulties would be less; in practice,

however, the chances become very slight indeed after two or three months. Long survival is rare even with the best of care: about 25 cases for every million population. A Japanese study suggests, but the situation is never the same as it is with "brain death" - a state of far more complete loss of brain function, which can be recognized as irreversible with as much certainty as ever exists in medicine. Miss Quinlan is apparently sleeping her last sleep, but she is certainly alive.

The decade in which she has existed without experience has seen many painful court cases turning on the right of doctors and families - and of society as a whole - to allow an ending to lives which have fallen into hopeless oblivion. Some of these cases have been in Britain, but most have been in America, where fear of litigation often induces doctors to inflict the utmost resources at their disposal on suffering and virtually hopeless victims. The trend, generally endorsed by the churches as well as the judges, has been towards a reader sanction for the abandonment of plainly futile struggles. A more recent decision by the New Jersey Supreme Court would allow feeding tubes to be removed from terminally ill patients, but Mr and Mrs Quinlan have not asked for this, as they do not feel that the tubes are causing their daughter any pain. But they do not mean to ask for extraordinary measures to be taken to combat the lung infections that periodically affect her.

## BIDS FOR BESS'S BANTER

The skull over which Burbage declaimed "Alas, poor Yorick" on the first night of *Hamlet* at the Globe Theatre in 1602 was lost sight of long ago - probably cremated in one of those fires to which Elizabethan theatres, all thatch and timber, were so subject. The poisonous asp (leather stuffed with horsehair, perhaps) that the first boy Cleopatra applied to his padded bosom is also lost, as is the sheet that Shakespeare himself must have thrown over his head in his performance as the ghost of Hamlet's father. So is the gilt-and-cardboard chariot to which the first Tamburlaine harnessed three captured kings. It was not until a generation or two after the great age of the English stage that the sentimental custom of preserving thespian mementoes arose.

There is one single exception to the total oblivion which has fallen on all theatrical properties of the Elizabethan age and even that is not strictly a stage-prop. It is a handsome charter, written on vellum in a fine professional Chancery hand, and sealed with the actual Great Seal of the realm. But the spelling is wayward and archaic to a degree that must have seemed burlesque even in Elizabethan times, and the text is pure moonshine.

The subject of an application for an export licence earlier this year, and the reviewing committee judged it important enough to recommend a three-month stay, which expires next month. In case any British institution wants to make a matching bid for its market price of £29,166. It is a measure of the hard choices that museums and libraries have to make these days that no move has apparently been made to retain it at that price.

It happens that the occasion when it was used is more fully recorded than most of the little such pantomimes of the period. Characteristically it was rather more than mere fun, and had serious political undertones. In 1591 the first Lord Burghley was feeling his age, depressed by bereavements, and eager to see his son accepted by the Queen as his successor in her closest confidence. He took to spending more and more time away from court in retirement at his country house of Theobalds. At last Elizabeth decided to descend on Theobalds with her enormous retinue, to cheer him up. When she arrived, the master of the house did not appear to greet her; instead, his son came out dressed up (to the mines, no doubt) as a simple hermit. He addressed her in high-flown verse, well-battered with the monstrous compliments the Queen so enjoyed, to announce that the landlord had moved into his contemplative cell, and instead sent him up to the house

to do the honours for the guests.

Deciding not to be offended by the non-appearance of her host, the Queen must then have ordered the mock-charter to be drawn up and sent to the reluctant Burbage in his cottage; allegedly she composed it herself. It is a message to "our right trusty & right welbelovéd Sir William Sitsilt Knight" (a queenly pun on Burghley's surname, Cecil), sympathizing with his sorrow "for looves greif bideth no compare" and imposing a sentence of banishment from his house on "desolation and mourning (the consumers of sweetnes) to the frozen Seas and deserts of Arabia Petrosia". Whether this majestic banter wooed Burghley to appear is not recorded, but it is a matter of record that his son Robert, thus pushed forward, was knighted before the royal cavalcade moved on, and he began to be spoken of at court as the coming man.

And so with one smiling and one calculating eye the Elizabethans took their pleasure. Though much pleasanter, it must have been an occasion not wholly dissimilar to that other Royal Command performance put on as a play within a play just eleven years later, in which the heir presumptive writes some extra lines for the actors to con, containing a political message which causes the king to rise in horror, and break up the entertainment by bellowing for lights.

## Farmers who help conservation

From Mr David Barker

Sir, Your letter from Lord Melchett and others of April 1 is certainly not true of all that is happening in East Anglia. A recent survey of all but three of 129 farmers in a 50 square mile area around Stanton in North Suffolk exposed the myths created by the extreme conservation lobby.

Almost 19 miles of hedgerow have been planted, against 4% miles removed in the previous five years.

Almost 74,000 trees have been planted in the same period. This equals a tree planted to every two acres farmed every year over the 50 square miles.

Woodland has increased by approximately 6.3 per cent or 77 acres.

In addition, the survey highlighted the vast array of special habitats and the large amount of conservation work being done by farmers in the area.

No-one is complacent but there is a very large and growing number of farmers combining good farming, with conservation. I earnestly believe that the cause of nature conservation is best served by encouraging the many positive things going on rather than a constant stream of anti-farming propaganda.

Yours faithfully,  
DAVID BARKER,  
(County Chairman,  
Suffolk Branch,  
National Farmers' Union),  
Kells House, Westhorpe,  
Stowmarket, Suffolk,  
April 9.

From Lord Kilbracken

Sir, The assertion by Cathal O'Connor (April 8) that ivy-covered trees should be cut down because they are "dying anyway", must not go unchallenged. A heavy infestation will kill a tree eventually, but it will have lived and grown for decades.

The cure, in any case, is to destroy the ivy, not the tree. This is easily done by cutting through the ivy's stems near the ground.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN KILBRACKEN,  
House of Lords.

## Football hooliganism

From Mr David Simpson

Sir, I have no wish to be critical of the Government's approach to football hooliganism, but the following extract from the records of the Middlesex Sessions indicates that the problem may be more deeply rooted in our society than recent events and instant solutions tend to suggest.

20 March, 18 Elizabeth I  
True Bill, that, on the said day at Raystippe, John Arthur Reynolds husbandman, Robert Bate yoman, Edward Bennett yoman, Richard Goddard husbandman, John Murdese husbandman, all of Raystippe aforesaid, and William Darcy of Woxbridge yoman, and William Darcy of Woxbridge yoman, Thomas Barker husbandman, Thomas Kerion husbandman, Cybrens Alkyn husbandman, William Rayner husbandman, and Richard Parsonse husbandman, all seven of Woxbridge aforesaid, with unknown malefactors to the number of a hundred, assembled themselves unlawfully and played a certain unlawful game, called football, by reason of which unlawful game there rose amongst them a great affray, likely to result in homicides and serious accidents.

Yours faithfully,  
DAVID SIMPSON,  
Clerk to the Justices,  
Uxbridge Petty Sessions Division,  
The Court House,  
Harefield Road,  
Uxbridge, Middlesex,  
April 2.

## Hunt injunction

From the Chairman of the British Field Sports Society

Sir, The claims of the League Against Cruel Sports reported in today's *Times* (April 3) give a wildly distorted view of the result of the Devon and Somerset Staghound case. The single and limited injunction obtained from five attempts will scarcely inconvenience the hunt at all and Mr Justice Park's definition of trespass provides clear and helpful guidance to masters of hounds everywhere.

No responsible master will encourage his hounds to trespass deliberately and he is thus bound to take reasonable steps to prevent this eventually. If he does he can rest assured that the position has in no way changed and that he will be protected by the law.

The judgement takes full account

## Possibilities of the Severn bore

From Dr Michael Moore

Sir, The article by George Hill (April 4) leaves me agast at the prospect of continuing delay over a decision to harness one of our great natural resources of clean energy. I refer to the building of the Severn barrage.

The alternative to this imaginative scheme is the shameful waste of fossil fuels and reliance on an industry which has just suffered the longest major strike in history.

To leave the great tidal forces in the Bristol Channel untapped is to be guilty of irresponsible laissez-faire. Not only do they offer a wonderful source of power but they do not require men to be moles or expose us to the problems presently associated with nuclear sources.

Besides this there are great collateral benefits in flood control, irrigation, fisheries, shipping and recreation, to say nothing of the jobs created both in its construction and operation.

Let us exercise our minds and skills in doing something of which this country can be proud, free from pollution or despoliation. Now is the time to act and to give our civil engineers an opportunity to turn the tide on recession.

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL MOORE,  
Church House,  
Griffioen,  
Chippingham,  
Wiltshire,  
April 4.

From Mr Fred Rowbotham

Sir, Referring to Mr George Hill's article on the Severn bore it is necessary to state that the construction of a barrage across the Severn estuary would not necessarily eliminate bores. While drawing heavily on my book *The Severn Bore*, Mr Hill overlooked my paragraph on the operation of the tidal model constructed by Sir Claude Inglis at the Hydraulics Research Station at Wallingford to study the 1945 Severn barrage proposal and on which I observed the bore to be substantially unaffected by the operation of the barrage, sited in this case at English Stones.

In common with many people Mr Hill wrongly assesses the effect of a tidal barrage. An essential function of such a barrage is to admit the tide as rapidly and completely as possible in order to re-fill the reservoir for the next cycle of electricity generation, thus creating the condition necessary for bore formation.

## Cost-effective advice

From Mr A. Cockerill

Sir, Douglas Wass's interesting proposal (feature, April 4) for a standing royal commission (SRC) to give independent analysis of policy issues runs the risk of setting up a cumbersome and expensive bureaucracy while under-valuing the potential of the existing parliamentary select committees.

It is true that the reports of the committees are, generally, under-researched, hurriedly written, seldom debated in the House and attempt to capture all shades of opinion represented by their members. Their strengths are that ministers and Civil Servants are held directly to account, written and oral evidence is taken from other interested parties who are thus given direct access to Parliament, and the proceedings are usually held in public, are published soon after, and are widely reported.

The quality and effectiveness of the committees' work could be

greatly improved by two initiatives. First, a modest increase in the amount of impartial specialist advice (committees typically have the services of a single advisor for not more than one day a week). Second, following the US Congressional pattern, the preparation and publication of staff reports on relevant topics.

In preparing their own reports the committees would be free to accept, reject, or qualify the findings of their specialist researchers and to place a cross-party political interpretation on the results of the analyses. Such developments would seem likely to be more cost-effective and to offer a greater check on the executive than would the SRC.

Yours faithfully,  
ANTHONY COCKERILL,  
Department of Management Sciences,  
The University of Manchester  
Institute of Science and Technology,  
PO Box 88,  
Manchester,  
April 4.

From Mr F. G. St Clair Strange  
Sir, In the article by George Hill it is stated that there is a bore "on the Yangtze which reputedly has the largest bore of all".

Having been a resident in Hangchow between the wars, and having seen it personally, I can assure you that the world's largest bore is not on the Yangtze but on the Chien Tang river, which is about 120 miles south of the Yangtze. This bore may reach 25 ft in height at Haining, where the river is a mile wide, so that it is considerably greater than the Severn bore.

Yours faithfully,  
F. G. ST CLAIR STRANGE,  
Church Hill House,  
Harbledown,  
Canterbury,  
Kent,  
April 5.

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## ON THIS DAY

APRIL 13 1961

Colonel Yuri Gagarin, the world's first cosmonaut, was killed when his two-seater jet crashed at Kirzhatsk on March 28, 1968. He was 34 years old. His historic achievement is still celebrated in Russia where April 12 is "Cosmonauts' Day".

## WORLD ACCLAIM FOR SPACE EXPLORER

At 07.07 (British Summer Time) yesterday the Soviet Union fired the first man into space. One hundred and eighty minutes later, after firing the earth once, 37-year-old Major Yuri Alexeyevich Gagarin landed at "a predetermined spot" in the Soviet Union. After the "cosmonaut's" landing the Soviet Communist Party and Government issued a statement proclaiming Russia's lead in the space race and appealing for world peace and disarmament.

Moscow took on an excited May Day aspect. All Russia (says Reuters) went wild with joy over the epoch-making voyage of the man whom Moscow radio called the Columbus of the Interplanetary Age.

Major Gagarin will probably be in Moscow to receive the plaudits of Moscow and the world. He was already being showered with honours yesterday. He was awarded the title of "Master of Radio Sport of the Soviet Union". Russian statements, however, emphasized the collective nature of the space triumph and claimed it is a victory of the socialist system.

## PROGRESS REPORTS

It was at 07.58 (B.S.T.) that Tass announced that the first man had been put into space. Moscow radio interrupted its programmes to give the news.

This was the sequence of events and the reports from Gagarin quoted by the radio.

07.07.-The spaceship, weighing 4,725 kilograms (about 10 tons), was launched by rocket into an elliptical orbit with greatest height 187 miles and least 108 miles. The inclination of the orbit to the equator was 34.8 deg. 4 min. The period of revolution was 88 min. 6 sec.

07.22.-Gagarin reported by radio that he was over South America and said: "Flight is proceeding normally. I feel well."

08.15.-Gagarin reported over Africa: "I am in a withstanding state of weightlessness well. He also reported over Asia Minor."

08.25.-The space ship's braking system was put into operation and Gagarin began his descent.

08.55.-The space ship landed safely and Gagarin said on landing: "Please report to the Party and Government and personally to Nikita Khrushchev that the landing was normal. I feel well. I have no injuries or bruises. The completion of the flight in space opens new perspectives in the conquering of the cosmos."

While in flight, Tass said, Gagarin carried out direct two-way "cosmonaut" radio communications for the first time in history by means of short and ultra-short waves.

## "BLUEISH" EARTH

A special correspondent in London, who was at the landing place of the spaceship, did not give details of Gagarin's landing but reported: "The landing was excellent, and Yuri Gagarin did not wait for a helicopter. Instead, he walked out to meet the people who spotted him in the sky."

The correspondent said that Gagarin was taken by helicopter to a point where he received Mr Khrushchev's congratulations by telephone. The correspondent said that Gagarin told the waiting people: "The sky is very, very dark and the earth is blueish. Everything is clearly visible."

This is how the correspondent described his first sight of Gagarin: "Stoic, smiling, and only a truly happy man can, he was coming down the gangway of the aircraft. He was wearing light blue, sky-coloured overalls and a flying helmet. People struggled to embrace him. They congratulated him and kissed him."

## Science research funds

From Professor D. Noble, FRS.

Sir, Your Douglas Hague, in your feature "Industry Today" (April 3), offers "analysis" in reply to my rhetoric. But he makes no reference to the statistics on science and education funding that I and others analysed before and during the Oxford debate, nor does he provide any himself.

It is, for example, hardly "analysis" to refer to the complication, when comparing research and development spending as a fraction of GNP, that much of this research is military, without giving the facts that show that Britain is the only western European nation to spend more than 50 per cent of its R & D budget on military work. The comparable percentages for Germany and Japan are negligible.

Anyone reading Douglas's article could be forgiven for thinking that such analysis would "redress the balance" of the comparison rather than make it even worse. The problem is not whether we can afford to rectify the damage being done to Britain's science and technology research. We can. That is just a matter of getting priorities right. It is rather whether we can "strengthen the link between scientific research and industrial application" if we continue to weaken the support of basic research.

Yours sincerely,  
DENIS NOBLE,  
University Laboratory of Physiology,  
Parks Road,  
Oxford.

## Conditioned reflex

From Mrs Patricia Hochstrosser

Sir, Some 46 years ago a strange young man kicked me (accidentally, I think) on the shin as we passed in a newsagent's shop. I apologised.

Sir, I married him, and after 45 happy years commend to your readers the practice of indiscriminate apology. It pays.

Yours faithfully,  
PATRICIA HOCHSTROSSER,  
14 Myrcle Close,  
Northwood,  
Middlesex,  
April 1.







# FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

## Bank keeps fence round its own back yard

The Bank of England's paper on the future structure of the gilt-edged market, published yesterday, should be eagerly sought by a far wider audience than its immediate catchment area of those organizations which have a continuing wish to participate in that market beyond the "big bang" day due to fall in October next year.

The reason for that wider interest lies in the glimpse of how life in the securities industry as a whole will operate in the new scheme of things. It promises to be a world in which self-regulation is pursued as far as possible within the ethos of free competition, and in which therefore the embryonic Securities and Investment Board is as underemployed as possible.

The speedy way in which the Bank moved to assume control of the new gilt-edged market effectively ensured that these twin aims would substantially be met. To that extent, the Bank and Stock Exchange have had an easier task than the Stock Exchange will have in the future in respect of equities. Both the national interest and the Bank's position as market supervisor and chief issuing house saw to that. But several interesting precedents have been created.

The first, in relation to the SIB, is that in the event of a disagreement over questions of principle the Bank has undertaken to do no more than "seek the opinion" of the SIB and take full account of such opinion. This does not commit it to much, particularly as the Bank has already arranged a substantial say in the selection of members of the SIB. Only thereafter would any still unresolved issue be referred to what the document calls as "an appeal body". It is instructive that that reference is as vague as it is, given that the Department of Trade and Industry has already made provision for a tribunal to sit in judgment on appeals. It will be a brave, and indeed possibly foolhardy, company that takes matters so far on the gilt front.

Secondly, the Bank is taking steps to set up a settlement system which is "Telecom-proof". One unsought effect of the wide success of the British Telecommunications flotation was the problem of fitting a large number of first-time investors into the existing system, which assumed a club-like degree of knowledge and shared view of how things should be done. No one is suggesting that gifts will be confronted with quite those problems, but there is clearly a need for a system capable of dealing with all-comers. The Bank proposes irrevocable instructions for payment for stock to be generated instantaneously by computer. Equity dealers please copy.

Applications by those firms wishing to become market makers - the equivalent of US primary dealers - must be in by May 3. As indicated in these columns, the initial list of successful applicants will be published in mid-June or soon after, enabling the Bank to take cognizance of the Stock Exchange's membership vote on June 4.

### BHP searches for identity

The joint Broken Hill Proprietary/Shell bid for the Australian Woodside group is a pretty friendly affair, more in sorrow than in anger, as the two main parties mop up the weak financial link in the consortium to develop the second \$A10 billion (\$5.5 billion) phase of the North West shelf project to tap its potential to supply liquefied natural gas to Japan. Yesterday's agreement between the bidders and Woodside over the interim board representation emphasizes that. Moreover, the two shared 42.6 per cent of Woodside's equity, have just bought a further 3 per cent and are not particularly anxious to gain more acceptances from the bid than would be needed for majority control.

### Vatican said to be selling bank stock

By Our Banking Correspondent

Chase Manhattan Bank refused all comment yesterday on reports that it has reached an outline agreement with the Vatican Bank to buy out its 51 per cent stake in a Swiss-based bank for about \$100 million (\$80 million).

The Vatican Bank or Istituto per le Opere di Religione (IOR) is reported to have broadly agreed the sale of its stake in Banco di Roma per la Svizzera in order to allow the cost of the settlement it had to make as a result of the Banco Ambrosiano affair.

Although the IOR never admitted any responsibility for the collapse of the Banco Ambrosiano of Milan it was known to be heavily involved in the affair.

The IOR finally agreed last year to pay \$244 million to creditors of the collapsed bank. Last year, the IOR raised about \$41 million by selling its stake in a construction company and it is also said to have raised a like amount from gold sales.

The semi-accidental nature of this expansion may seem odd when BHP, by far Australia's biggest company, is anxiously thinking out its long-term strategy. The cheeky bid from the ever-ambitious Robert Holmes & Court set off this soul-searching as BHP's top men were forced to admit privately that the financier's notion of making a fast turn by breaking up the oil, coal, copper and steel group into its component parts was perfectly possible, and that BHP's great move into oil and gas had left it with a long-run lack of identity.

Although about some two thirds of BHP's profit now comes from oil, mainly from the Bass Strait reserves developed with Esso, it is still mainly an investor in oil rather than a true oil company. BHP's big effort to expand outside Australasia has centred on the Americas: coal in the United States and a great copper prospect in Chile. The group is certainly considering some involvement in North Sea exploration - again as investor rather than operator. The question is whether Australia's lonely giant will use its \$3 billion plus capitalization to buy one of the lesser, presumably US, integrated oil groups and place itself firmly among the oil-based multinationals. If BHP is not to remain prey to opportunist attacks, it needs to establish itself one way or another as an international equity, rather than simply the foreigner's punt on the Australian market, however profitable that may be when portfolio managers are looking for any hedge against dollar investments.

### Schroders links to both sides in bid

Matthew Brown, the Lancashire brewer could hardly have chosen a more highly motivated merchant bank than Schroders to help it fight off the unwanted \$100 million takeover bid from Scottish & Newcastle Breweries. Five months ago, Schroders was dismissed as adviser to S & N as part of a general clear-out by Mr Alick Rankin, the managing director.

Mr Rankin concedes that he was not aware that Matthew Brown was one of Schroders' corporate clients when he made his bid and admits to a slight anxiety that knowledge built up about S & N over the years could be used against the company in Brown's forthcoming defence document.

Such fears are heightened by the presence on Matthew Brown's board as a non-executive director of William Wiltshire, who until two years ago was S & N's financial adviser at Schroders.

Mr Rankin said: "Provided that Schroders act with the discretion that I am certain they have, I see no reason for complaint about this and I am sure that the bank would not take advantage of any inside knowledge they have about us."

Undoubtedly Schroders has such knowledge. The merchant bank helped with S & N's ultimately unsuccessful bid last July for the Hartlepool-based brewer J W Cameron.

The current bid for Matthew Brown is intended to fill the hole in corporate strategy left by the failure to acquire Cameron.

Schroders also helped S & N to draw up its own defensive strategy for use in the event of a bid. "We would certainly know if they were digging into that", Mr Rankin said.

The response from Schroders is predictable. "It goes without saying that information we have on one client would never be used on behalf of another. It is surprising how quickly information becomes out of date", Mr Nicholas Jones said.

This is the sort of anomaly that the new Takeover Code, to be published next Friday, is expected to deal with.

### Executives' pay jumps at Jaguar

By Jonathan Davis, Business Correspondent

The chairman and executive directors of Jaguar have been awarded maximum bonuses and new share options to reflect the company's record profit performance last year.

Jaguar's annual report, the first since the company's privatization last summer, shows that the company has 54,000 shareholders, compared with 125,000 after its flotation in July.

According to the report, Mr

## Bank of England cautious as base rates move lower

By Peter Wilson-Smith and Bailey Morris

The cost of borrowing at two of the big clearing banks edged down again yesterday as Barclays, followed by the Midland, cut their base rate by half a percentage point, from 13.25 to 12.75 per cent.

The move leaves the big clearing banks still charging different rates. National Westminster and Lloyds both reduced their base rates to 13 per cent last month and were reviewing the position yesterday.

The decision by Barclays and Midland was taken because of the pound's firm performance on the foreign exchanges and the recent easing in money market rates.

National Westminster and Lloyds may decide to fall in line or even reduce base rates to

12.5 per cent before long if the pound stays firm. But the Bank of England was giving out clear signals in the markets yesterday that it did not want any hasty moves.

However, there was no suggestion that the authorities were unhappy at the Barclays move. If external conditions stay favourable, the possibility of the Bank of England acceding to market pressure for a further slight easing in rates before long is not being ruled out.

The pound took yesterday's rate cuts in its stride. Although it eased against some Continental currencies, it gained more than half a cent against a weak dollar and the sterling index closed up 0.2 at 78.4, the highest since the middle of last year.

The dollar barely reacted to

yesterday's American economic statistics showing that inflation, as measured by the producer price index, rose a modest 0.2 per cent last month. This was the largest increase this year but well within market expectations.

The March increase followed a 0.1 per cent gain in the index in February and no advance at all in January, the Labour Department reported. This year, inflation at the wholesale level has been growing at an annual rate of 0.3 per cent, the smallest rate in 20 years.

The modest gain in inflation, coupled with another increase in the US money supply last week by \$1.8 billion, failed to move markets. Analysts remain convinced that the American economy is slowing and that the

US Federal Reserve Board, which acts as a central bank, will be forced to take an accommodating monetary line.

Mr Henry Kaufman, the chief economist of Salomon Brothers, predicted in his latest report that the Fed will soon take steps to ease credit policies further because of its concern over sluggish economic activity and its belief that inflation will remain low.

Although some economists expect the American economy to move strongly ahead in the second quarter, reflecting rapid growth in the money supply over the last six months, others are in doubt, citing the surprising seven-year drop in retail sales last month.

Tempus, page 13

### IN BRIEF

#### Entrad lifts Tootal stake

Entrad, the Australian textile group, bidding for Tootal, bought more than 35 million Tootal shares in the market yesterday taking its stake to 26 per cent. The buying was done at the bid price of 72.5p cash plus the promised 1.37p new second interim dividend.

Entrad hopes to buy up the permissible 39.9 per cent limit before next Thursday's closing date.

Tootal was undismayed by the success of Entrad's buying spree. The chairman, Mr Alan Wagstaff, said the weaker brethren had been shaken out, but he was confident the main institutional shareholders will stand by the company on the basis of the profits forecast of £27 million pretax this year and prospective 7.6 per cent yield.

Market report, page 13

#### Kwik Save up

Kwik Save Discount Group, the grocery supermarket operator, has increased pretax profits in the 26 weeks to February 23 to £15.4 million, up from £14.3 million. Sales rose from £309.5 million to £336.5 million. The interim dividend is increased to 1.4p from 1.3p last time.

Tempus, page 13

#### Vaux buys hotel

Vaux Breweries has acquired the three-star 71-bedroom Kingsmill Hotel in Inverness for £1.35 million. The deal brings to 32 the number of hotels owned by Vaux in Britain.

Dealings in shares of Grosvenor Square Properties on the Unlisted Securities Market, were halted yesterday, pending agreement over the acquisition of a privately owned property company. The directors said negotiations were at an advanced stage and details would be announced shortly.

#### Hawker ahead

Hawker Siddeley, the engineering group, increased 1984 pretax profits to £151.5 million, from £137.5 million. Turnover rose from £1.457 million to £1.600 million. A final dividend of 7.7p makes 11.8p for the year, against 11p last time.

Tempus, page 13

#### Brazil surplus

Brazil's trade surplus narrowed to \$830 million (\$669 million) last month from \$1.016 billion a year ago, according to the country's Export-Import Bureau.

## OECD fails to fix trade talks

From Eduardo Cue

The annual ministerial meeting of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development ended yesterday with general agreement on the way in which the main economic problems should be tackled but without setting a date for a new round of trade talks.

The final communique issued at the end of the two-day session of the 24-member countries emphasized that need to reduce budget deficits and tackle unemployment without resorting to inflationary policies.

In his speech to the meeting, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Nigel Lawson, said unemployment remains an acute social and political problem, that carries the added danger of too much inflation in an effort to combat it.

"In general, concerted re-



Nigel Lawson: "concerted reflation will mean concerted inflation"

labour market from working better.

Failure to set a date for the new round of trade talks followed French insistence that such negotiations must be accompanied by monetary discussions.

The French view, expressed by the finance minister, M Pierre Berégovoy, remained unchanged even as the new American Treasury Secretary, Mr James Baker, called for a special high level meeting to review the world monetary structure. The Americans have previously paid no more than lip service to monetary reform.

The French want the decision on the date for the second round of commercial talks, better known as the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, to be announced at the Bonn summit of industrialized nations in three weeks, according to a highly placed British source.

## Booker and Dee raise profit forecasts

By Jeremy Warner

Booker McConnell, the cash and carry to agriculture and health products group, yesterday strengthened its defence against Dee Corporation's unwanted £337 million takeover bid with a forecast that pretax profits this year will rise by about 22 per cent to £45 million.

At the same time, Dee increased the pressure on

Booker by revising its own forecast of profits for the year to the end of this month from £56 million to £64 million. Dee's 125-for-100 share exchange offer closes next Friday.

The new Dee forecast was criticized by Mr Jonathan Taylor, Booker's managing director, on the grounds that almost all the increase had been achieved by adding in excep-

tional property profits. "If we had played Dee's game at Booker, we could have shown an enormous rise in profits," he said.

Booker pointed out that property profits were not a material factor in its profits for 1984 or its forecast of profits for this year.

It said that much growth was expected from agribusiness

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SUNDAY TELEGRAPH APRIL 13-19 1985

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### MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS		MAIN PRICE CHANGES		CURRENCIES	
FT Ind Ord	967.8 (+10.4)	RISES:		London:	£ \$1.2530 (+0.0060)
FT-A All Share	814.73 (+2.41)	Premier Cons Oil	54 +7 1/2	DM \$ 3.5336 (-0.0054)	
FT-SE 100	1,275.87 (+6.5)	Oilmar Grp	38 +5	SwFr 3.2265 (-0.0160)	
Bargains	26,099	Burnett & Hellmuth	55 +7	FFr 11.7100 (unchanged)	
Dataseam USM	110.82 (-0.19)	Horizon Travel	135 +17	Yen 314.55 (+0.25)	
New York		Blackwood Hodge	38 +3 1/2	£ Index: 78.4 (+0.2)	
Dow Jones	1,284.13 (+0.44)	MFI	257 +32		
Tokyo		Promotions House	35 +3	New York:	£ \$1.2545
Nikkei Dow	12,588.01 (+14.21)	Humberstone El	12 +1	DM 3.0565	
Hong Kong		Millford Docks	72 +6	£ Index: 145.5 (-0.2)	
Hang Seng	1,492.18 (+8.79)	Stothert & Pitt	145 +12	ECU 20.5303	
Amsterdam	206.2 (+0.5)	Las Cooper Grp	123 +10	SDR 80.801249	
Sydney: AO	840.1 (+0.8)	Tootal Grp	75 +6		
Frankfurt		Avon Rubber	301 +23		
Commerzbank	1211.7 (+9.4)	Supra Grp	41 +3		
Brussels:		Gartfinkels Rest	248 +28		
Generale	259.94 (-2.88)	Hawker Siddeley	443 +31		
Paric CAG	220.0 (+1.8)	Ass Brit Ports	272 +18		
Zurich		Intasun Leisure	113 +7		
SKA General	341.80 (+0.10)				
GOLD		FALLS:		INTEREST RATES	
London fixing:		CIFER	13 -4	London:	Bank Rate: 13-12%
am \$331.25 pm \$329.90		Reardon Smith	12 -3	3-month Interbank 12 1/4-12 1/2	
close \$328.75-\$329.25	(263-)	CPU Comp	38 -8	3-month eligible bills 12 1/4-12	
265.50 New York		Microseal	40 -3	buying rate	
Comex (futures) \$329.80		Noble & Lund	14 -1	Prime Rate 10.50	
		Metal Sciences	11 -1	Federal Funds 9 1/4	
				3-month Treasury Bills 8.07-8.03	
				Long bond yield 9 1/2-9 3/4	



## COMMODITIES

## MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

as well as some corpora-  
took it up to the high  
around 3.0825

## INVESTMENT TRUSTS

[illegible]

## INSURANCE BONDS AND FUNDS

[illegible]

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**Base**  
Decrease  
with off

**Depo**  
Interest  
by 0.5%  
12th A  
For the  
gross.

**Save**  
Interest  
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**Mont**  
With el  
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For the  
gross.

 **MIKE**  
International

**F** FIDELITY INVESTMENT  
**A** AFFILIATED HOLDINGS  
**M** MICHIGAN INTER  
**E** AFFLUENT



STOCK MARKET REPORT

# Entrad steps up Tootal stake to 26%

By Derek Pain and Alison Eadie

The Australian textile group Entrad came much closer to its quarry Tootal yesterday, when it snapped up more than 35 million shares in the stock market to take its stake to more than 26 per cent.

Cazenove, the broker, went in to buy just after 10am and was still buying on the close at the bid price of 72.5p cash per share, plus the promised 1.87p net second interim dividend. Entrad had a stake of 5.87p net second interim dividend. Entrad had a stake of 5.87p net second interim dividend. Entrad had a stake of 5.87p net second interim dividend.

Tootal's share price jumped 6p to 75p on news of Entrad's buying. The bid has all the signs of being a cliffhanger in its final stages with sentiment finely divided on the relative merits of the two parties.

Tootal remains confident, despite the buying foray, that it has sufficient institutional support to see off the Australians. Income funds particularly are expected to stay with Tootal, because of the above average yield.

However, Entrad's managing director Mr Rod Hartley, an ex-Tootal man, can also count on some strong support, particularly for his marketing skills.

Entrad's final offer circular went out yesterday. It repeated its attack on Tootal's profits and dividend forecasts. Tootal

again described its forecasts as conservative.

Equities finished the drab three-week account with a flourish. At the close, the FT 30 share index was registering a 10.4-point gain, its best advance since mid-March, to 967.8.

The more broadly based FT SE share index, at one time nursing a fall, finished 6.5 points higher at 1,275.8.

New-time buying was one factor behind the market's modest revival. But the two base rate cuts, and the continuing decline in money market rates, also helped sentiment.

Hambros Bank placed 1.8 million shares in Norscot Hotels at 113p each yesterday. The company has eight Scottish country hotels and one in the Lake District. Profits last year were £495,000 and the shares were sold, assuming a notional 35 per cent tax charge, at 16.1 times earnings. The cash raised repays borrowings incurred by Norscot and its parent company Burnthills, a diversified group controlled by Mr Peter Ross, chairman of Norscot. Dealings start on Thursday.

Government stocks had a good session, recording gains of up to 1p in places. The Government Broker sold some of his saplet, Exchequer 10½ per cent, 1997, at £97¼. The new Treasury stock opened at £79¼.

As befits the last day of an account, takeover stocks attracted attention. Debenhams, after Thursday's excitement,

continued to win support. After throwing off an early bout of profit taking, which took the price to 241p, the shares moved ahead strongly, closing at 248p, yet another new peak.

Mr David Hillyard, a Debenhams director, said that there was no evidence of any share stake building. He added: "There has been no approach and no discussions are going on."

Talks between Sir Terence Conran, chairman of Habitat Mothercare, and Mr Robert Thornton, Debenhams chairman, did take place earlier this year.

Bestalls, the Kingston upon Thames store, could not stand the pace. After crossing the £1 mark on Thursday, it fell back to 97p.

The MFI stores group came in for a late run. In a market caught short of stock, the shares bounced 32p to 257p. Gratian, the mail order group, continued to score from broker talk-in, rising 8p to 122p.

There was excitement on the oil pitch as talk flowed that Tricentral, as part of its endeavours to ward off any aggressive intentions from Enterprise Oil, was planning a bid for Premier Consolidated Oilfields. As a prelude, ran the story, it was planning to buy the 11 per cent PCO shareholding held by Carless, Capel and Leonard which made an unsuccessful bid for PCO.

PCO shares, also helped by talk of an oil find, jumped 7½p to 34p. CCL joined 8p to 151p. Mr Ivan Bosky, the American arbitrage expert, who intervened in the earlier battle for PCO, is thought to have sold most of the shares he acquired during the CCL bid.

Tricentral shares close unchanged at 256p, recovering an early fall. Burnmah Oil continued to draw support from its figures, gaining 12p to 233p.

Old bid favourites Stock Conversion and Investment Trust bounced to yet new heights, adding on 23p to 471p. The two most likely predators, according to the market are Slough Estates and Stockley.

Mr James Campbell, managing director of Stock Conversion, said he had had no idea why the share prices should have jumped.

The bid rumours started last November, when the former chairman and joint founder, Mr Robert Clark, died. This encouraged speculation that a

Shares of These Holdings, which runs three London restaurants, including Peppercorn Park, are now trading at 45p on the over-the-counter market run by the Guidehouse Group. They were offered at 40p each. The share sale was comfortably oversubscribed. Profits for the current year have been forecast at £300,000.

takeover might succeed. A price of 500p has been talked of as a realistic bid price, based on a published net asset value of 483p.

Higgs & Hill rose another 5p to 328p on continuing hopes that Trafalgar House might launch a bid. Trafalgar House refused to comment on rumours that it had purchased a near 5 per cent stake in Higgs & Hill from Barratt Developments.

J Jarvis climbed another 10p to 323 after a newsletter tip. The market in the shares is very thin.

Hawker Siddeley gained 26p to 437p on a profits rise of 10 per cent.

Stothert & Pitt advanced 12p to 145p on speculative demand. The holiday firm Horizon benefited from the strengthening of the pound and on reports of an upturn in holiday

bookings after a poor start to the season.

Avon Rubber gained 23p to 301p after a broker's visit.

CPS Computers Group eased 2p to 118p as three directors - and a former director sold between them more than 1.7 million shares at 117½p a share.

BOC Group held at 275p as a line of shares went through the market and Thorn EMI improved 14p to 411p on suggestions of a £5 a share bid from Phillips, the Dutch electrical giant.

Cookson Group, which recently announced much better-than-expected results, was still in demand, rising 7p to 695p. An investment seminar arranged by W. Greenwell, the broker, is expected next week.

Extel Group, which is subject to recurring bid rumours, was 20p higher at 320p. Applied Holographics fell 10p to 220p as Mr S. Roger and Mr B. Snyder left the board. Mr B. Rogers, a former chairman, stays as a consultant.

Ranks Hovis McDougall gained 6p to 152p on speculation that S & W Berisford had found a buyer for its near 15 per cent stake. Berisford has been reported as looking to sell its stake for several months. RHM, a subject of much bid speculation, has climbed steadily from 100p last September.

Mass Bros bounced 28p higher to 383p in a thin market and in sympathy with the firm's stores sector.

William Baird added 23p to 370p on comment following its results.

Glaxo gained 2p to 1080p ahead of interim results next Monday. Millford Docks continued to gain on speculative demand adding 5p to 71p.

Pearl Assurance rose yet again adding 20p to 1128p on bid rumours.

## TEMPUS

# Hawker works its way back into favour

After the disappointment of Hawker Siddeley's interim performance and the subsequent battering which the share price took, the company has been working hard at restoring its credibility with the City. That work was consolidated yesterday with the announcement of preliminary pretax profits of £151.5 million, up from £137.5 million.

The figure was well ahead of most forecasts, which had been downgraded to about £140 million at the time of the interim, but the difference was largely due to currency. The analysts were much more forgiving about Hawker's extended forecasts than they were when it became clear that the original estimates of up to £160 million would not be met.

More important though, is a new-found confidence in the company's prospects. The 1984 performance, particularly in Britain had been depressed by three non-recurring problems, the elimination of which should combine to provide a stronger year. The end of the miners' strike, an upturn in the power engineering business and contract completions at Westinghouse will all contribute to improved profits in 1985.

The order books are also looking more healthy than a year ago and in real terms are up by 10 per cent. Although the general trading outlook is far from dynamic, and there are areas which remain quite depressed, the underlying message remains one of steady growth on most fronts.

Hawker Siddeley is also blessed with a strong balance sheet. It had net cash of £111 million at the year end, down by £7.7 million, and has substantial

borrowing facilities. A sizeable acquisition, preferably in the US and geared towards the consumer end of the market, could be a further feature of the current year, and could be achieved without stretching finances too seriously.

The shares have not recouped the 54p shed on the day of the interim announcement, but they have been moving in the right direction.

Yesterday's figures helped the price up another 26p to 437p. With profits of £170 million in sight for the present year, the shares still look cheap.

## Gilts

"What is the answer?" posed Gertrude Stein, following this with the even more enigmatic: "But what is the question?"

The Government Broker plainly spent yesterday afternoon absorbed by market questions of similar philosophical profundity. He failed to keep his Friday afternoon trust with the market, leaving the traders bereft of clues about the funding programme.

It is hard to quarrel with the Government Broker's decision to remain invisible. He had a reasonably good day yesterday on the pitch, completing the sale of his medium saplet, Exchequer 10½ per cent 1997. But significantly, he failed to sell out his longer-dated stock, Conversion 9½ 2004, raising doubts about the most fashionable area of the yield curve. Have the ultra-longs lost their glamour?

Possible developments next week in the United States may have prompted the authorities to blow the official raspberry. Wall Street is now full of analysts who claim that final first quarter GDP figures, due

out next Thursday, will be revised downwards, perhaps to as low as 1½ per cent annualized.

This slowdown will increase pressure on the Fed to ease its monetary stance, and get the flagging US economy moving ahead, if only to head off Congress in its heavily protectionist mood.

Markets reacted in a flash this week to the poor US retail sales. The dollar weakened, and sterling strengthened because of the pound's counter-vailing appeal as a high interest rate currency. Next week could see a repeat performance.

Hence the authorities' cautionary approach to rates on the one hand, now that a totally confusing two-tier structure has been erected, and their refusal to drop clues in the bond market. Left to its own devices, the yield curve might well steepen in the mid-nineties area, making it look even more anomalous than it does now.

## Kwik Save Discount

The success of Kwik Save Discount has been attributable largely to its ability to keep sales volumes increasing steadily. Any slowdown hampers profits, and yesterday's first-half pretax profits of £15.4 million, up from £14.3 million, reflect this.

The miners' strike, delays in the store opening programme, and the impact of cheap fresh produce prices all took their toll. Sales increased by only 8.7 per cent and of this only 1 per cent was genuine growth. The shares closed down 2p at 186p. It might take better full-time figures to push the price higher.

## Midland Bank Interest Rates

### Base Rate

Decreases by 0.5% to 12.75% per annum with effect from 12th April 1985.

### Deposit Accounts

Interest on Deposit Accounts decreases by 0.5% to 7.0% net p.a. with effect from 12th April 1985.

For those customers who receive interest gross, the rate decreases to 9.36% p.a.

### Save and Borrow Accounts

Interest on credit balances decreases to the above Deposit Rate with effect from 13th May 1985 and interest charged on overdrawn balances remains at 23.0% p.a. APR 25.0%.

### Monthly Income Accounts

With effect from 12th April 1985 the interest decreases by 0.5% to 9.0% net per annum. For those customers who receive interest gross, the rate decreases to 12.04% p.a.



**Midland Bank**  
Midland Bank plc, 27 Poultry, London EC2P 2BX

COMPANY	OTC ISSUE PRICE	DATE	OPENING STOCK EXCHANGE PRICE	DATE	LATEST PRICE
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8 Bishopsgate, London EC2N 4AE







FAMILY MONEY/1

Edited by Lorna Bourke

## Unit-linked in front

Ten years of a bull market in shares has produced unit-linked policy performances which outstrip the traditional with-profits endowments by a wide margin. The latest survey from *Planned Savings* magazine shows that the best unit-linked policies - £20 a month paid over 20, 15 and 10 years to February 1, 1985 - would have produced an outturn some £7,322, £6,025 and £2,273 respectively more than with-profits counterparts.

The gaps between the best performers and the dullards at the bottom of the charts are considerable. With Criterion Life turning in a lump sum of £7,798 compared with the best endowment policy over 20 years - Standard Life with £18,380.

The discrepancy between the best and worst unit-linked policy over the same period is even more marked. At the top of the scale there is M & G Dividend, worth £25,702 compared with S & P Capital's £11,139.

With profit and unit-linked performers. Maturity value of a £20 a month policy

With Profits 20 years	Unit Linked 20 years
Standard Life	M&G Dividend
18,380	25,702
Scottish Amicable	M&G Midland & Gen
17,805	24,398
Tunbridge Wells	M&G Second General
17,634	20,458
Norwich Union	M&G General
16,567	15,518
Friends' Provident	Equitable Life
16,350	15,284
NALGO	Equitable Life
15,024	14,377
Scottish Life	Tyndall Income
15,686	14,087
Scottish Widows	S&P Investment Trust
15,713	13,033
Equitable	Tyndall Capital
15,423	13,033

15 years	Unit Linked 15 years
Scottish Amicable	Equitable Life
£10,616	£16,641
Standard Life	Equitable Life
10,489	16,063
Norwich Union	M&G Dividend
10,389	14,325
Tunbridge Wells	Barclays Income
10,159	13,581
Scottish Widows	NPI Growth
9,892	13,505
Friends' Provident	M&G Midland & General
9,560	13,514
Equitable Life	Barclays General
9,525	13,514
Equitable Life	NPI Growth
8,879	8,789
Equitable Life	M&G Recovery
8,871	8,539
Scottish Life	Barclays Income
8,783	8,539
Friends' Provident	London & Lanc. ITU's
8,777	8,438
Clerical Medical	Confed. Life Equity
8,749	8,415

10 years	Unit Linked 10 years
Scottish Amicable	Profitable High Income
£5,440	£8,206
Standard Life	Friends' Provident
5,247	7,713
Norwich Union	Equitable Life
5,197	7,326
Scottish Widows	Barclays General
5,148	8,876
Equitable Life	M&G American & Gen
4,892	8,810
Equitable Life	NPI Growth
4,878	8,789
Tunbridge Wells	M&G Recovery
4,871	8,539
Scottish Life	Barclays Income
4,783	8,438
Friends' Provident	London & Lanc. ITU's
4,777	8,438
Clerical Medical	Confed. Life Equity
4,749	8,415

Sources: Planned Savings.

## Crime and punishment for home insurers

### HOUSE CONTENTS

The insurance companies this week announced record claims for theft on household contents policies - for the first time ever theft claims during 1984 exceeded £300 million to reach an all-time high of £320.4 million.

Perhaps more alarming were the five year figures which show that claims have more than trebled in the past five years from a starting point of £94.5 million back in 1979.

Mr John Simpson, Chairman of the British Insurance Association's Crime Prevention Panel, said: "There is a steep rise in the number of theft claims under household policies. In 1984 there were, on average, more than 1,000 such claims every day. With increases in the cost of each loss, this has led to a 17.5 per cent increase in the total cost of household claims, which rose to £201.1 million."

The balance of the total of £320.4 million is accounted for by commercial claims.

With losses at this level you would think the insurance companies would be burning the midnight oil, trying to make us all more conscious of crime prevention, or working out ways to provide incentives for householders to install effective security devices.

On this score the insurers seem to be taking a somewhat defeatist attitude. Mr Chris Vecchi, of the British Insurance Association, said: "The trouble is that you cannot offer a big enough discount on premiums to make it worthwhile for people going to the expense of installing security equipment."

Only three insurers have so far taken this route - two are relatively small in household business - Cornhill and Economic. Only the Sun Alliance

which offers discounts for approved security systems, has a significant presence in the household insurance market.

"The other problem is that theft is only one of the risks covered - fire, flood and weather damage are also included in the premium", Mr Vecchi said.

With theft claims rising very much in line with unemployment, it is difficult not to suspect that some of the claims are fraudulent. The temptation for someone who is insured but unemployed and short of cash to stage a fake break-in must be considerable.

One insurer said: "We have no way of knowing whether a claim is fraudulent unless it is so obviously a put-up job that it arouses our suspicions."

However, several companies are getting tough on theft claims where part of the loss is cash which has been left lying around. Mr Vecchi said: "Wherever money is included in the

insurance cover you are always going to have people who are out to make a fast buck by inflating their losses. And it may be that social factors like unemployment and redundancy are aggravating this problem."

So how are the thieves getting away with so much? Mr Vecchi said: "It tends to be because people are simply thoughtless."

"They pop out to the shops for half an hour and leave a window open or don't take proper precautions. The thief whisks in and makes off with the television, hi-fi or video. The average theft claim is around £500."

With losses running at over £300 million, might it not be worthwhile spending a bit more on crime prevention publicity?

"We have been running a Beat-the-Burglar campaign since December 1981 and we have given away some four million Beat-the-Burglar leaflets as well as producing a 20

minute video for showing by social clubs and the like."

What is the crime prevention budget? "That's difficult to say because it isn't just money, it is people's time - but the cash spent would be a six figure sum."

The result of these horrifying theft losses is being felt by householders where it hurts most - in the pocket.

Household contents premiums have rocketed in recent years to the point where some householders are allowing their policies to lapse because they simply cannot afford the premiums. The Pru dropped a bombshell on its policyholders with huge rises in inner city areas which will effectively price many elderly people, and those on low incomes, out of the market.

Anyone with a policy coming up for renewal should shop around.

Lorna Bourke

## Bank plans new route to the Far East

For investors looking for a way into the Japanese and other Far East stock markets, Baring Brothers, oldest of the City merchant banks, is next week launching five authorized unit trusts through its subsidiary Baring Fund Managers.

It is a new venture for the merchant bank. It already manages about £7,500 million worldwide for pension funds and institutional clients, and has a clutch of unit trusts for these clients. But for the first time Barings will be putting its own name to unit trusts, and it will also be marketing them to a wider public, largely through professional advisers.

However, the trusts will be run by a proven management team with a successful track record in the Far East. Last year Barings bought out the other half of Henderson Baring Management from Henderson Administration.

The company has been renamed Baring International Investment Management (BIIM) but otherwise nothing has changed. Since it was founded in 1975 funds under management have grown from £20 million to around £2,000 million. About three quarters of BIIM's business is in Japan.

Last year, a difficult one in the Japanese market, BIIM underperformed. Its Japan portfolios showed an average drop of 3 per cent in dollar terms on a total return basis, against a 16 per cent rise in the Tokyo Stock Exchange index.

But over five years it managed an impressive 177.8 per cent rise, against a 95.3 per cent gain in the index. The average gain of portfolios invested in the Pacific region over five years was 117.7 per cent, against 77.3 per cent in the Pacific Regional index.

According to Mr James Morrell, BIIM chairman, the

Japan Technology Fund, one of the eight offshore funds BIIM manages, has appreciated in sterling terms by 537 per cent over the past five years. This compares with a 326 per cent gain in the Tokyo index in sterling terms.

The five new trusts being launched are the Baring Japan Special Trust, Japan Sunrise Trust, Eastern Trust, Australia Trust and First Japan Trust. The minimum initial investment is £500 except for the First Japan Trust which has an initial minimum of £10,000.

Barings believes there are still good investment opportunities in Japan, despite the fact that the Japanese market has been in a strong bull phase. Mr James Williams, an investment manager, argues that last year

Outside investors have committed £10m

performance of the market was dominated by financials, while electricals, for instance, underperformed. This, he believes, gives scope for opportunities, and Barings considers Japan an exciting and dynamic area for investment.

Although the new trusts are being launched next week at a series of seminars around the country, £10 million has already been committed by outside investors.

According to Mr Nicholas Baring, chairman of Baring Fund Managers, the intention is to develop a significant interest in the unit trust industry. Following the launch of the new Far Eastern trusts, Barings will be rationalizing and renaming the other trusts it operates and getting authorization for its unauthorized trusts.

Peter Wilson-Smith

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13th April 1985

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A questioner asks about future security

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## It pays to decide Nationwide

Nationwide Building Society, New Oxford House, High Holborn, London WC1V 6PW.





## FAMILY MONEY/2

## Mortgage plan that takes a little risk

Nationwide Building Society has got together with Guardian Royal Exchange, to launch a home loan plan linked to GRE's unit-linked managed fund. Many building societies are prepared to accept unit-linked policies as security for a home loan, but the difference with the Nationwide/GRE scheme is that borrowers make single monthly payments to Nationwide which incorporate the insurance premium. With most schemes you make interest payments to the building society and separate insurance premium payments to GRE.

GRE's managed fund has performed well, too, so this is a useful scheme for those who are prepared to accept the slightly higher risk inherent in unit-linked schemes compared with the more conventional with-profit endowment policies.

Because the value of a unit-linked policy at maturity is directly linked to the value of the underlying investments, if your policy matures in a year when the stock exchange is going through a bad patch, you may have to delay repayment of the loan until shares pick up again. This might not suit if you had planned to retire at that time. Details of the scheme from Nationwide branches.

## Revenue turns on the heat

The Inland Revenue's pay what we demand or else - is a well-known threat to tardy payers, regardless of whether the amount demanded is the correct sum. Latest to feel the effect are employers who fall behind with payments of PAYE deducted at source from employees' wages.

From April 6, employers who fall into arrears will receive an estimate of the unpaid liability. And unless the employer pays within seven days of the date of the

notice - or sends the correct amount of tax - the estimated amount becomes enforceable.

The Revenue cheerfully admits that the process will speed up bringing in overdue PAYE tax. But what constitutes arrears? "Tax is due on the 19th of the month and employers should not assume that they won't get an estimate on the 20th if they haven't paid tax owing," commented the Inland Revenue.

## Co-op pays 9.34%

The Co-op Bank is launching a Top Tier bank account on Monday. Balances over £2,500 will attract after tax interest of 9.34 per cent. If the balance should fall below £2,500 the bank's ordinary deposit rate will apply.

Interest is calculated daily and credited twice yearly. No penalty is incurred for instant withdrawal if the balance remains over £10,000, but between £2,500 and £9,999 three months' notice is necessary to avoid loss of interest. For basic rate taxpayers the account compares reasonably well with its competitors in the high street banks and building societies.

## Its own judge

Ombudsman is the latest buzz word in the consumer protection field, and the National Consumer Council would like to see one or more legal ombudsmen employed by an independent council to deal with complaints against solicitors.

According to the NCC, the present system is too fragmented - complaints about "misconduct" are dealt with by the Law Society, but claims for compensation arising from a solicitor's negligence have to be pursued privately, through the courts if necessary.

Justice is not seen to be done because the Law Society, the professional body which looks after solicitors' interests, deals with complaints against its own members", says the NCC.

## Bubble bargain

Save your Matry bubble bath bottles and claim 50p is the latest promotion from Woolwich Building Society on its Woolwich for Kids accounts.

For each 50p deposited in the account, along with a specially marked Matry bubble bath bottle, a further 50p will be added up to a maximum of £2.50 for five bottles. The offer is open to new investors only, and children must be accompanied by an adult when opening an account.

The special Matry bottles are available for two months, although they will be accepted at Woolwich branches until the end of April next year. The Woolwich does not say whether it can identify existing Woolwich for Kids investors who close an account at one branch and open one at another in order to qualify for the special "double you money" offer.

## Royal choice

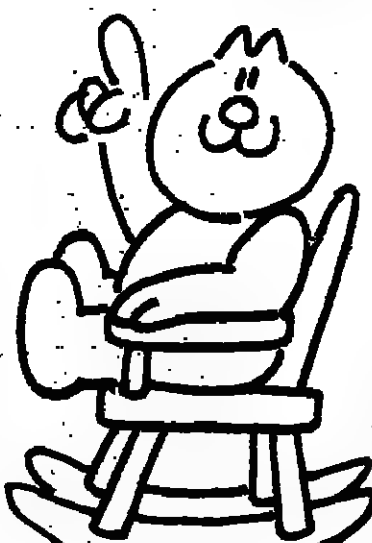
Investors in Royal London's lump sum and regular savings scheme, Unit plan, have a new utilised fund to choose from. Royal is launching an equity fund to run alongside its existing mixed fund.

The managed fund invests in a spread of equities and fixed interest securities, while the new equity fund will be a pure equity investment.

The mixed fund has been a slightly below average performer. Royal describes its performance, since its launch in April, 1981, as "remarkable", but figures compiled by Money Management magazine show that £1,000 invested in Royal London's mixed fund three years ago would be worth £1,648 as at March, 1985 compared with an average for all insurance company unitised managed funds of £1,682. Top performers in the sector showed a return of over £2,000 for the same period.

## Blanket help

The Leeds Permanent Building Society is doing its bit for the famine relief effort in North Africa. Over the next few weeks customers will be able to deposit blankets to help provide shade in the



Henry's Cat: With the Woolwich

daytime and warmth at night for the stricken refugees.

Leeds Permanent has allied with Help the Aged and Bandaid, who are taking care of collection and packaging of the blankets for transport to Ethiopia and Sudan. Blankets can be left at any of Leeds Permanent's 475 branches.

## Pension deal

Framlington has sold £3.83 million worth of unit trusts wrapped up in its new personal pension scheme. The scheme is an excellent deal for anyone making personal provision for retirement, since Framlington charges nothing for the wraparound pension policy, and investors obtain 100 per cent investment in Framlington unit trusts at no extra charge - but with the full tax relief allowable on personal pension premiums. You are effectively investing in unit trusts with tax relief.

It is a pity more people have not grasped just what a bargain this is. Although Framlington is putting a brave face on it, sales of the pension scheme at £3.85 million are peanuts compared with the £20 million or more they would expect to take on the successful launch of a straight unit trust.

Provided you can afford to lock up your savings until retirement, the Framlington pension policy is a much better way of buying unit trusts, because you get full tax relief on the premiums paid.

## Holding on

Owning their own home is the most important step for most people but redundancy and unemployment can make hanging on to it the next most difficult manoeuvre.

The Rights Guide for Home Owners covers everything from how to deal with mortgage arrears to obtaining family income supplement and rate rebates. It is published by the housing charity, SHAC in conjunction with Child Poverty Action Group, and is available (price £2.50) from either organisation.

Child Poverty Action Group, 1 Macklin Street, London WC2B 5NH, or SHAC, London Housing Aid Centre, 189a Brompton Road, London SW5 0AR.

## French with tears

It might be something to do with those bumpy French roads, or even the French drivers, but eight out of ten British drivers who break down in Europe do so in France.

With this in mind, the French-based, Mondial Assistance is aiming to carve out a slice of the British motorists holiday insurance market.

Mondial, with its eight million members has the necessary experience and muscle throughout Western and Eastern Europe to give the best possible help to the motorist in difficulties," says the publicity material.

Mondial claims it is one of the most competitive insurers for motorist holidays, charging £24.80 for vehicle

cover for 11 to 17 days; compared with £30.80 at Europ Assistance, £31.50 for AA 5-star cover, and £29.50 for RAC Travellers Bond. Further details from Mondial Assistance, PO Box 161, Croydon CR9 1DB.

## Guide to USM

For many entrepreneurs, the United Securities Market provides a means of cashing in their chips, and several millionaires have been created by this route.

Books cannot tell you how to make a million, but the latest publication from the Institute of Chartered Accountants sets out what you have to do to obtain a quote on the USM. Called *The United Securities Market*, it examines the main criteria used in deciding whether a company is suitable for flotation on the USM, the advantages and disadvantages of a listing, entry requirements, and the role of the professionals it also includes sections on the content of a prospectus and flotation timetable. Copies of the book are available from the Publications Department, Institute of Chartered Accountants, 399 Silbury Boulevard, Witan Gate East, Central Milton Keynes, MK9 2HL. Price £2.50.

## Pensions uncertainty

The National Association of Pension Funds, the major organisation for self-administered pension funds in the private and public sectors, publishes its 1985 Yearbook this week. In his review of 1984 the association's chairman, Mr Tom Hayes, commented on the uncertainty preceding the recent Budget, adding that it is "too early yet to look forward to the period of reasonable certainty and stability which companies, employees and all pension planners so badly need."

The NAFP Yearbook supplies information about the council and its functions, and lists the largest public and private sector schemes ranked by size of assets. It is available from the National Association of Pension Funds, 12-18 Grosvenor Gardens, Victoria, London SW1W 0DH. Price £15.50 to members, £29.50 to non-members.

## How people take life seriously

Most young middle-aged people are likely to have only one life assurance contract - apart from mortgage protection cover - according to a recent survey carried out for fund managers Property Growth.

About 300 adults in Britain in the 25 to 45 age group were interviewed and 67 per cent had only one life policy, 23 per cent owned two, and 8 per cent owned three. Only two people out of 100 had four or more policies.

Nine out of ten of those interviewed had whole life or endowment type policies and the average total cover per person was £22,180 while the average amount of cover per policy was £15,388. Most of those questioned had policies with a value ranging from £10,000 to more than £20,000.

Most people did not take independent advice. Only 11 per cent of those questioned had bought their cover through an insurance broker while 56 per cent had been sold a policy by an agent or salesman representing the life company. Most on their own assessment were underinsured.

Most thought they needed cover of around £33,700 - about 52 per cent higher than the average actual cover. However, one in five thought this was nothing to worry about, and one in three thought the cost of buying insurance was the main deterrent.

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GROSS EQUIVALENT TO BASIC RATE TAXPAYERS

THIS BIG NEW RATE FROM 1<sup>st</sup> APRIL

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

Signature(s) \_\_\_\_\_

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Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

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## Easy way to money, but mistakes can happen Cash dispensers that leave their customers short

The high street banks are being forced to face the possibility that their cash dispensing machines might be less than infallible.

Since they were first introduced in the late 1960s, the computerised cash dispensers with their individual cards linked to secret personalised identification numbers (PINs) have been considered virtually invulnerable to error.

As recently as 1981, Lloyds Bank admitted to 350 disputed withdrawals during the previous year, resulting in reimbursements of just under £11,000 - only .0001 per cent of the total £690 million withdrawn. Those totals have since grown to 71.7 million transactions, representing £2.151 million, while the percentage of transactions disputed (and admitted) has remained much the same.

Recent inquiries by the BBC Radio 4 consumer programme *You and Yours*, however, have elicited about 100 letters since February recounting disputes of one kind or another over cash dispenser withdrawals. The letters have been forwarded to the National Consumer Council, which may publish a report on the subject next month.

The issue raises consumer temperatures because, so convinced are the banks of their systems' infallibility, that the burden of proof in a dispute is always on the customer, whose bank statement is the only record of a transaction that he can see.

The BBC team has defined three areas of dispute. The most

common is the receipt of fewer notes than requested from the machine; say, £40 when £50 was punched in and debited.

Sometimes the machine seems to debit the same transaction twice, on the same consecutive days, so that a £50 transaction, for example, becomes £100. Often a discrepancy on the statement rectifies the error - but not always.

Finally, there is the question of mysterious debits. A withdrawal made without the knowledge of the customer, sometimes from branches he or she has not even visited. The banks unanimously reject this kind of complaint, insisting that there must be some explanation - another member of the family, for example.

Of the disputes reported, about half have been resolved in the customer's favour. Whatever kind of dispute is involved, the banks tend to argue that in reimbursing the customer they are giving him the benefit of the doubt, although in cases of alleged short-changing it is obviously helpful to have a witness, and the face-saving explanation of "mechanical error" to hand.

Suggestions of third-party fraud raised by several of the more mysterious debiting incidents are unsubstantiated.

From the consumer's point of view, the French *Visu* experiment, in which microchips are being built into credit cards could prove the best way round the banks' court-of-appeal approach.

Tony Samstag

## YOU'VE HEARD THE STORIES. NOW, HERE ARE THE FACTS...

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GUAR



FAMILY MONEY/3

# Referees in demand

## OMBUDSMEN

The success of the Insurance Ombudsman, set up four years ago, has moved other institutions to set up a similar service.

By the end of the year, an ombudsman will referee complaints made against banks, and there is growing pressure for ombudsmen to tackle complaints against building societies and the pensions industry.

Aggrieved consumers can turn to the Insurance Ombudsman for a decision only if their complaint concerns a member of the Insurance Ombudsman Bureau. Sixty insurance groups which write three-quarters of British personal insurance have signed up with the Bureau.

Most of the rest belong to the Personal Insurance Arbitration (PIAS) Service. Only one company, Sun Alliance, is a member of both systems.

Sun Alliance initially opted for the PIAS, but following the success of the ombudsman it decided to join while being reluctant to withdraw support from the PIAS in which it and Eagle Star are the largest members.

The chief difference between the two systems is that the rulings of the PIAS, which is run by the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, are binding on both sides, but a complainant whose case is rejected by the Insurance Ombudsman James Haswell is still free to use the courts. This is a definite plus.

But while the insurance companies were wary that the scales might be tipped against them, consumers have seen the vast majority of cases decided in favour of the companies. Last year the companies' decisions were confirmed in 386 cases and revised in only 79. Another 494 cases were settled after a case had been referred to the Ombudsman. These could therefore be regarded as settled in favour of the policyholder.

The Ombudsman will consider cases only where the complainant has gone right to the top in the company and got no satisfaction. So by the time a case goes to Mr Haswell, a lawyer, the company is pretty sure of its ground.

Mr Haswell found three main causes of legitimate complaint last year - inflated expectations caused by over-enthusiastic insurance advertising, uncaring staff and misunderstandings caused by the use of insurance jargon.

The National Consumer Council would like to see the Ombudsman's remit widened so that he could consider actuarial matters.

"One of the greatest single complaints that consumers have against insurance companies is the extremely bad value for money which they get if they have to surrender a policy soon after taking it up", said Michael Montague, chairman of the NCC.

"Providing a mechanism for resolving disputes about this would deal with what I believe is now an area of major dissatisfaction."

The NCC was one of the first to suggest that a banking ombudsman should be created who could oversee building societies as well. But now that the banks - 17 so far - have decided that a banking ombudsman should be restricted to banks, the NCC is pressing the Government to include a building societies ombudsman in the legislation which will follow on from the Green Paper

on building societies to widen their scope of activity.

Currently most building societies rely on the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies to provide a forum for settling disputes which cannot be resolved by the Building Societies' Association. Awards made by the Chief Registrar are

that our task embraces assessment of the merits of conflicting evidence, but rather of attempting to see whether some accommodation can be reached."

Local trading standards officers who work within local authorities are responsible for policing the Trades Description

with a government department agency such as the OFT. Manpower Services Commission, or more likely, the Inland Revenue or DHSS you can ask an MP to take up your case with the grand-daddy of ombudsmen - the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration - who investigates claims of injustice through maladministration.

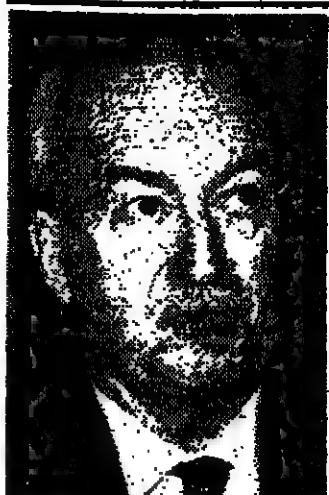
If your insurance broker gives you bad or negligent advice, first check whether he is a member of the British Insurance Brokers' Association. It will investigate complaints against its members.

Advisers who are licensed dealers in securities are regulated by the Department of Trade, which will deal with any claims of negligence or incompetence and will also tell you whether your adviser is licensed or not.

But there is a whole raft of "advisers" who belong to no organisation whatsoever, and if your man comes into this category then your only remedy for complaint at the member if the firm refuses to compensate you, is through the courts.

When the new Investors Protection Act comes into force, hopefully towards the end of next year, all investment advisers will have to be licensed or a member of a self-regulatory agency approved by the Department of Trade.

Vivien Goldsmith



Ombudsman James Haswell: Three causes of complaint.

**WHERE TO COMPLAIN**  
The Insurance Ombudsman, 31 Southampton Row London WC1B 5SH.  
The Personal Insurance Arbitration Service, Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, 75 Cannon Street, London EC4N 6BH.  
Martin Piller, Secretary to the Council, The Stock Exchange, London EC2.  
Association of British Travel Agents, 55/7, Newman Street, London W1P 4AA.  
Building Societies' Association, 3 Saville Row, London W1X 1AF.  
Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies, 15/17 Great Marlborough Street, London W1V 2AZ.  
Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration, Church House, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3BW.  
Office of Fair Trading, Field House, Broom's Barn, London EC4A 1PR.  
British Insurance Brokers' Association, BIBA House, Bevis Marks, London EC2A 1NT.  
Insurance Brokers Registration Council, 15 St Helen's Place, London EC3.  
Department of Trade, Financial Services Companies Division, Branch 15, Sanctuary Buildings, 16-20 Great South Street, London SW1.

binding and final, and he can direct that either party shall bear the costs - £11 for a reference, £55 for the first hearing and £26 for any subsequent hearings.

The BSA is not enthusiastic about an ombudsman, but the deputy director, Mark Boleat said: "We will watch with interest how the banking ombudsman develops, and if the legislation allows us to go into more areas we will have to think again."

He points out that there are few complaints against building societies, and when an ombudsman was set up to oversee the distribution of local authority nominated mortgages he did not receive a single complaint.

But the Labour MP, Kenneth Weech, who is keen to see a building societies ombudsman, retorts: "There are weeks in Ipswich when I hold a surgery and there are no complaints, but I don't give up holding surgeries."

## Growth in personal portable pensions

The NCC also believes that a more accessible forum for pensioners' problems than that provided by the Occupational Pensions Advisory Service is needed, especially since the growth in personal portable pensions.

"The thought of having to settle in the courts what was meant by an agreement entered into 30 years previously horrifies me," says Mr Montague.

All sorts of organizations have set up tribunal systems to hear complaints against them. ABTA has an arbitrator who hears claims up to £1,000 per person or £5,000 per booking, whichever is the greater. Aggrieved holidaymakers have to pay £17.50 plus £3.75 for any extra members of the family over 13 who are claiming compensation for a ruined holiday.

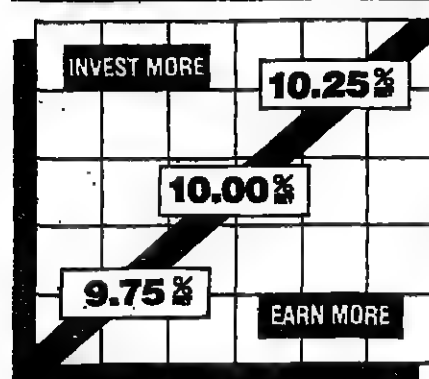
Complaints against stockbrokers are investigated by the Stock Exchange Council. In the year to March 24, 1984 they received 225 written complaints. Two of the complaints resulted in legal actions.

The report admits that not all grievances can be resolved internally. "We do not consider

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1	130.54	15,664.80 (Paid over 10 years)	9,491.22	48,852
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## Bankers enter the battle to catch your cash

### INTEREST

Anyone who leaves cash on ordinary seven-day deposit at the bank is not making the most of his or her money.

There is now a wide range of high interest, accounts, from banks and a host of other institutions which offer rates considerably higher than are obtainable on bank seven-day deposits. In several cases there is no minimum investment required.

High interest cheque accounts (HICAs) are the banks' answer to competition from the building societies. With the introduction of composite rate tax (CRT) on all bank interest from last week, the banks had to have accounts that looked as attractive as the successful "extra interest" accounts at the building societies, and HICAs have sprung up like mushrooms in recent months.

Best of the bunch among the high street banks is Lloyds' High Interest Cheque Account, currently paying 9.5 per cent net of basic rate tax. Minimum investment is £2,500, but unlike the other banks' competing

accounts, Lloyds' places no restrictions on the number of cheques you write or the cash amounts of cheque withdrawals. Three cheques a quarter can be written without charge - after that you pay 50p a cheque.

"It has been going extremely well so far, and we are very pleased with the response," commented Norman Evans of Lloyds. The account also offers a normal cheque guarantee card and a cashpoint card which allows you to withdraw up to £300 a day from cash dispensers.

Over at NatWest, its version of a high interest account, Special Reserve, has been going great guns. "We have taken in £633 million since the launch in January, and we are adding new accounts at the rate of 1,000 a day," says Colin Williams.

Clearly there is a certain amount of switching going on, but NatWest is confident that a substantial proportion of the money going into the Special Reserve is coming from competitors, rather than its own deposit account customers.

Since its launch, NatWest has opened some 57,000 Special Reserve accounts. An extra 0.25

per cent is paid on investments over £10,000.

Market leader, though, is Citibank Savings account, with no minimum deposit required and no charges or restrictions on writing cheques. Very low key, Citibank's Carl Holsters says: "We are satisfied with the way it is going, we have opened around 10,000 accounts". Citibank is going slowly with this account because it is anxious to maintain a high level of service, so promotion has been limited. But paying 10 per cent on all amounts over £500, it not only offers the best facilities but also pays the highest interest rate of all the banks. "This is all new money for us, and we are pleased with the way the account is going," says Mr Holsters.

Originators of the concept of high interest accounts were institutions other than banks. One of the first with a "money fund" was Oppenheimer/Simco

which pioneered the idea of paying money market related rates to smaller investors.

Oppenheimer/Simco's money fund has been in existence for well over a decade, but until such funds came on the scene, only large investors with sums of £25,000 or more had access to money market interest rates. The cheque book facility was offered at a later stage, though it was the fund managers Save and Prosper who really popularized the concept of the high interest cheque account.

The high street banks would probably have continued to sit on the sidelines, paying a relatively poor rate of return on seven-day deposits had it not been for the Government's unexpected move to bring banks and all other deposit-taking institutions (with the notable exception of the National Savings Bank) into the CRT net.

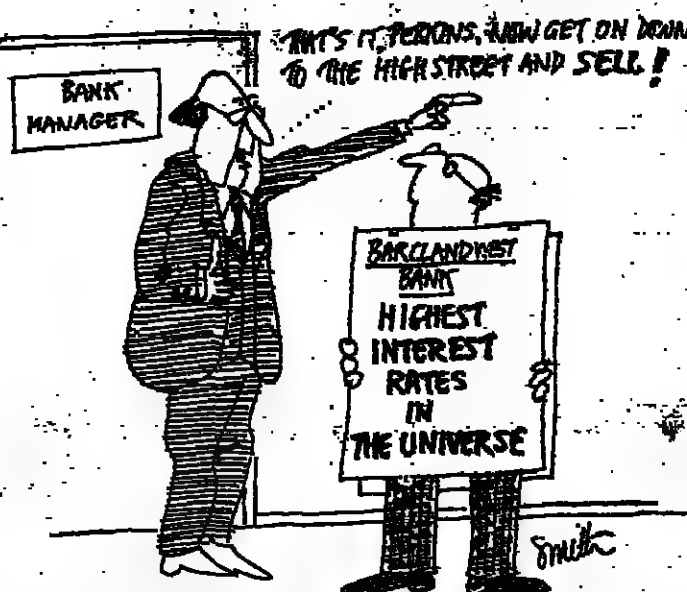
The banks have long complained of the building societies' advantage in being able to pay interest net of basic rate tax. What they wanted was a similar facility.

What they got was not the option to apply CRT but an obligation to do so - not what they had bargained for at all. Inevitably, if they were obliged to deduct basic rate tax at source they would no longer be able to quote a gross interest rate, and the poor return on seven-day deposits would be highlighted.

Rather than sit by and see customers walking out of the door and across the road to the building society or post office, they moved (for one with relative speed) and set up their own version of HICAs.

Continuing competition from the building societies and other banks should ensure that the terms of HICAs will gradually be improved - if not on the interest paid, then on the facilities. It is only a matter of time before one of the big four banks starts to reduce the minimum investment or removes the restrictions on writing cheques.

Lorna Bourke



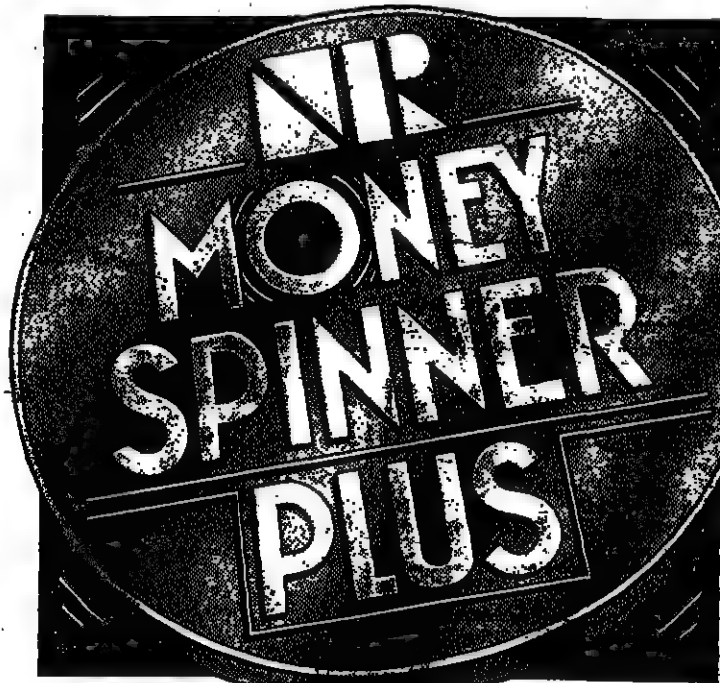
### HIGH INTEREST ACCOUNTS

Interest rates as at April 11

Fund	Interest Rate CNAR	NET	Minimum Deposit	Minimum Withdrawal	Cheque Book	Notice	Tel. Number
Aiken Home	%	9.90	2,500	500	yes	Call	01-838 8070
Bank of Scotland	9.52	9.41	2,500	250	yes	Call	01-838 8060
Barclays	9.75	9.75	1,000	250	yes	Call	01-585 2777
Britannia/Cater Allen	9.96	9.53	2,500	250	yes	Call	01-248 3989
Charterhouse Japhet		9.72	2,500	1	yes	Call	01-748 4477
Citibank Savings		10.0	1	none	yes	Call	01-826 8543
Co-op Cheque Save		9.72	2,500	1	yes	Call	01-831 3313
Ed Manson cheque		9.71	1,000	yes	3 mths	Call	01-638 5757
Ed Manson 3-month		10.46	1,000	yes	Call	01-238 8381	
Henderson	9.62	9.41	2,500	250	yes	Call	0286 51851
HFC Trust & Savings	9.65	9.71	5	1	no	Call	01-236 1425
Lloyds HICA		9.75	2,500	250	yes	Call	031-557 0201
M & G	9.65	9.42	2,500	250	yes	Call	0708 86968
Midland Bank	10.11	9.75	2,000	250	yes	Call	0705 827733
NatWest Special Reserve		9.625	2,000	250	yes	Call	0705 827733
Oppenheimer Money Mgmt	9.77	9.44	1,000	200	yes	Call	01-236 1425
Royal Bank of Scotland		9.63	2,500	250	yes	Call	031-557 0201
Save & Prosper	9.70	9.72	1,000	250	yes	Call	0708 86968
Schroder Investor (10,000)		9.75	10,000	250	yes	Call	0705 827733
Schroder (10,000 or more)		9.95	10,000	250	yes	Call	0705 827733
Money Market Trust	9.76	9.67	10,000	1,000	no	Call	01-236 0852
7-day Fund	10.27	9.90	2,500	1,000	no	7 days	01-236 0852
Tyndal/Call		9.57	2,500	250	yes	7 days	0272 732241
Tyndal/7 Day		9.57	2,500	250	yes	Call	0272 732241
Western Trust & Savings	10.27	9.90	2,500	250	yes	Call	0752 261161
High Interest Cheque	10.08	9.72	2,000	250	yes	Call	0752 261161

CNAR - Compounded net annual rate - not quoted by some companies  
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£20,000 or more	10.25%	14.64%

\*Interest may vary. \*Taxation paid for basic rate taxpayers.

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FAMILY MONEY/5

# It's competition time again

Spring has brought a new crop of building society accounts with even better rates of interest. Richard Thomson has been shopping around to root out the "best buys".

A fresh outbreak of competition is benefiting investors yet again. The building societies are

involved in another of their scrambles to offer the best rates in order to improve the flow of cash into their coffers which fell near to a record low last month.

Their main target was to beat the clearing banks' rates, but since last week's fall in base rates the banks have been piling down their own deposit rates below the 10 per cent level to around 9.75 per cent net.

Now the societies are competing among themselves.

The effect has already been to push investment rates well above 10 per cent on many accounts, but there is also a strong improvement in the actual terms of the accounts offered by many societies.

Ordinary share rates with almost all societies rose from 7.75 to 8.25 per cent on April 1, but the real excitement has been in the high interest accounts. These now hold over half of all the money invested in building societies. Rates offered on high interest accounts range from about 9.5 per cent net.

Depending on how often during the year the interest is paid, this can mean a compounded annual rate of as much as 10.75 per cent. A number of societies, such as the Leeds, Bradford and Bingley and the City of London all offer 10.75 per cent.

But for many investors it may not be possible to go just for the highest paying account. So it is interesting that at the same time as raising rates many societies are both shortening the notice periods on their accounts, and reducing the minimum investment levels.

Alliance, for example, saw that competition was shifting away from higher paying one-year accounts to shorter term deposits. "There is clearly more competition for shorter term money," the society said, and changed its one-year Premier account to a 90-day notice

account.

The Halifax followed a similar course. From the end of last month it closed its seven-day and 28-day accounts to new deposits, and instead introduced a new Instant Xtra immediate access account offering 9.75 per cent net, as long as a £500 minimum is kept on deposit. Town and Country similarly converted its seven-day account into instant access and the Alliance today launches its Gold account offering 9.75 per cent with instant access on a balance of over £800.

The other tendency, to reduce the minimum deposits required, was graphically shown by the Cheltenham and Gloucester's move to halve the amount needed on its Gold account from £1,000 to £500. Abbey National also reduced the minimum on its seven-day account to £500.

Among the short-term accounts, therefore, the Cheltenham and Gloucester remains about the best. Besides its low minimum it offers a rate of 10.25 net. Investors with more money to spare, however, will clearly get a better rate on the Middleton Masterplan, as the table shows.

The interest range widens again on one-month accounts, and the laurels clearly go to the small societies. Apart from the Stanley Super 30 account, which requires a deposit of at least £5,000, the best smaller deposit accounts are available from the Essex and the Hendon.



Investing in a building society? The choice is wide

Yet despite the moves towards shorter and smaller minimums, the best rates still go to big deposits in longer term accounts. A rash of new accounts has just appeared to exploit this. The Halifax launched its new Premium Xtra offering 10.25 per cent (a compounded annual rate of 10.65 per cent) which offers a guaranteed two per cent over the ordinary share rate for three years. The minimum investment required is £10,000.

But a better deal has come from the Leeds Permanent with its Limited Edition paying 10.75 per cent net. As long as the £10,000 minimum is maintained the 2.5 per cent premium over the ordinary share rate is guaranteed for two years. Similar accounts have come from the Midlands, paying 10.5 per cent net, and the Anglia, offering 10.25 per cent net, and Nationwide's Capital Bond which guarantees 2 per cent over the ordinary share rate on

a minimum investment of £500. The Anglia guarantees a 2 per cent differential for one year, but requires a minimum investment of only £500.

Among the best buys, Metrogas Building Society's Super Saver, a 90-day notice account, attracts 10.55 per cent net, whereas its Lunar account, which is a 28-day notice account, earns 10.05.

Harrow Building Society has taken a different route from the Alliance. Its Additional Interest shares which offer a net rate of 10.5 per cent, require three months' notice of withdrawal in order to avoid 30 days' loss of interest.

Bradford and Bingley introduced a new account, the High Interest, offering 2.5 per cent above the ordinary rate, at present earning 10.75 per cent net, needing three months' notice to avoid a 90-day penalty, and a minimum investment of £5,000.

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HIGH INCOME (Y)	10.80% = 15.42%

28 days notice (no interest on amount withdrawn over notice period)

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28 days notice (no interest on amount withdrawn over notice period)

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### BUILDING SOCIETIES: FIVE BEST BUYS

Instant access accounts	% net	Min inv	Int
Abbey National Cheque Save	9.52	£2,500	B
Halifax Instant Xtra	9.75	£500	A
Middleton Masterplan	10.60	£5,000	O
Wessex ordinary shares	10.10	-	B
Cheltenham & Gloucester Gold	10.25	£500	A*

7-DAY	% net	Min inv	Int
Hendon	10.10	£500	B+
Britannia	10.00	£500	B
Citizens Regency	10.00	£500	B
Paddington	10.00	£100	B
Sussex Mutual Magnum	10.00	£500	B

1 MONTH	% net	Min inv	Int
Nationwide Super Bonus	9.75	£200	B*
Essex Extra	9.75	£500	M
Stanley Super 30	10.55	£5,000	M
Hendon 1-month	10.40	£500	B+
Sussex Mutual Monthly Income	10.25	£500	M

\* for balances over £5,000 interest credited monthly  
+ for balances over £2,000 interest credited monthly  
- for balances over £1,000 interest credited monthly  
Q=interest credited quarterly, M=monthly, B=biannually, A=annually

Information supplied by Building Society Choice, annual subscription £10.95 from Research and Information, Riverside House, Rattlesden, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, IP8 0SF. Tel: Rattlesden (04493) 287.

## Problems that pop up in top-up loans

As the housebuying season gets into full swing there are many people, particularly first time buyers, eager to find ways of borrowing more than the standard 80 to 85 per cent of property value offered by most lenders. One method is to take out a top-up loan, where the bank or building society loan is increased by a loan backed by a life policy from an insurance company. Yet as a reader, Mr P. K. Nandi, found there can be hidden problems with top-ups.

He was first surprised to find that although only a small part of his total mortgage consisted of the top-up element, the insurance company (National Mutual Life) insisted that he take out a life policy covering the whole amount of the loan. He was next disconcerted to discover that the policy he was required to buy was a non-profit endowment policy. These are notoriously expensive.

The monthly cost of a National Mutual non-profit policy on a £45,000 loan over 25 years for a 35-year-old man, for example, is £113.50. The cost of an economy endowment policy for the same loan is £91. The cost of the policy, of course, had to be paid on top of the ordinary mortgage repayments.

Mr Nandi took his loan out several years ago, however, and National Mutual says it now allows top-ups to be linked to economy endowment policies. "We were one of the first insurance companies into this market, because we saw a need", a spokesman said. "But

we had to start offering economy endowments because the market has become so much more sophisticated."

Yet only last year Mr Nandi ran into further problems. He went back for another loan from the company for home improvements. "It was unwilling to give me one," he writes, "unless I took out a further policy to cover the extra advance." He protested that he already had ample life cover, including an endowment contract with bonuses which already covered the amount of the new loan. But National Mutual remained stony-faced. Mr Nandi had to take out a further endowment policy he did not want or need, to get his loan.

National Mutual maintains that these sorts of terms are only fair. If the borrower defaults, said Mr Richard Barker, a director, the building society or bank has a prior claim to the insurance company over whatever is left to pay off creditors. Because they are taking bigger risks, therefore, insurance companies required a higher return from such lending.

This is so, but another insurance company involved in the top-up loan market threw a different light on things. A spokesman said: "We see top-ups as a way of generating more insurance business, and I expect all insurance companies who do this business think of it that way. They are not banks, after all, but insurance companies. They are doing it almost as a special favour."

# "The Midland High Interest Cheque Account gives you high interest, easy access and no charges."



As its name implies, a Midland High Interest Cheque Account gives you high interest and easy access.

**9.75% Interest**  
Interest, linked to money market rates, is paid quarterly at 9.75% net p.a., equivalent to 13.93% p.a. for basic rate tax payers\*.

**Cheque Book**  
With your special cheque book, you can pay bills and withdraw cash without giving notice and without losing interest. You can write as many cheques as you like and there are no charges. All we ask is that you maintain a balance of at least £2,000 and remember that all withdrawals must be for £200 or more.

It all means higher interest plus the freedom to enjoy it.

**Act Now**  
Apply by filling in the application form and sending it with your cheque (minimum £2,000) to any Midland branch. Or send the form to Midland Bank plc, PO Box 2, Sheffield S13GG indicating the branch where you would like your account opened. Or, if you'd find it more convenient, pop into any Midland branch and we'll be delighted to talk to you about opening an account.

Full terms and conditions are available at all Midland branches and will be sent to you on receipt of your application form and cheque. This account is not open to businesses.

\*Our branches in the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man pay interest gross. The rate is 13.04% p.a. Interest rates correct at time of going to press, but variable in line with market conditions.

**HIGH INTEREST CHEQUE ACCOUNT APPLICATION FORM**

I/We enclose a personal cheque for £ (minimum £2,000) payable to Midland Bank plc.

Please open a High Interest Cheque Account in my/our name(s) at \_\_\_\_\_ branch.

TITLE FORENAME(S) SURNAME

M \_\_\_\_\_

M \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Home Tel. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Business Tel. No. \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation(s) \_\_\_\_\_

If resident at present address less than 18 months please give previous address: \_\_\_\_\_

Interest Options: Please pay:—

☐ into my/our High Interest Cheque Account

or

☐ into my/our Midland Current Account held at your branch\* ☐ Account Number \_\_\_\_\_

\*If you wish to open a Current Account please call at your local Midland branch.

Both to sign in the case of joint account (additional simple formalities may be required).

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Midland High Interest Cheque Account**  
From the Listening Bank

**NEW HIGHER INTEREST RATES**

7 DAY SHARE	9.80% = 10.04%
30 DAY SHARE	10.10% = 10.36%
90 DAY SHARE	10.35% = 10.62%
3 YEAR SHARE	10.55% = 10.83%

Minimum Investment £500

Portsmouth Building Society

**Only our High Interest Cheque Account guarantees to pay the Money Market rate**

- London 1 month Inter-Bank Bid Rate paid on £5,000 balances and over.
- Less only 1% p.a. on £1,000 to £4,999 balances.
- Rates set each Saturday as per One Month Inter-Bank Bid Rate in F.T. London Money Rates table.
- Immediate access to funds with cheque book.
- Monthly statement.
- No service charges.
- Minimum deposit £2,000.
- Security of one of the world's largest banking groups.

Telephone enquiries (0752) 261161

To: Western Trust & Savings Ltd., FREEPOST, The Moneycentre, Plymouth PL1 1BR.

Please send me details of your High Interest Cheque Account.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Western Trust & Savings Ltd.**  
ROYAL BANK OF CANADA



# THE TIMES Portfolio

From your Portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

No.	Company	Year of issue
1	ELECTRICALS	
2	BEIC	
3	Merck	
4	BSR	
5	System Designers	
6	Rosette	
7	First Castle Elec	
8	STC	
9	Ferranti	
10	CEC	
11	Electronics	
12	INDUSTRIALS E-K	
13	Haden	
14	Johnston	
15	IMI	
16	English China Clay	
17	Hanson	
18	Granada	
19	Ingall Inc	
20	Scrivener (L)	
21	Hunting Assoc	
22	Fennell (LH)	
23	INDUSTRIALS L-R	
24	Metal Coaters	
25	Parker Knoll 'A'	
26	Manganese Bronze	
27	Lungdon Ind	
28	Low & Bonar	
29	Robinson (Thomas)	
30	Rockware	
31	Laird	
32	Thames	
33	Bank Org	
34	INDUSTRIALS S-Z	
35	Wals (G) & Sons	
36	Wier	
37	Wadkin	
38	Tomkins (PH)	
39	Transnominational	
40	Stonchill	
41	Toothill RW	
42	Viscor	
43	Transport Dev	
44	Six Hundred	

Weekly Dividend  
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £40,000 in today's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN

Claimants should ring 0254-53272

1984/85 High Low Company Price Change % P/E

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

UNDATED

INDEX LINKED

BREWERIES

BANKS DISCOUNT HP

ELECTRICALS

## STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

# Firm end to account

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Begin, Monday, Dealings End, April 26, Contango Day, April 29, Settlement Day, May 7.  
\$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

## THE TIMES Portfolio

DAILY DIVIDEND £2,000  
WEEKLY DIVIDEND £40,000  
Claims required for +38 points  
Claims required for +117 points

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FAMILY MONEY/6

# Cover your personal loan but just watch the cost

## INSURANCE

Anyone taking out a personal loan these days is likely to be offered insurance as well. Ever keen to sell more, the major banks and lending institutions have, during the past two or three years, been offering block protection plans for loans as a matter of course. These cover the total repayments of the loan in case of death, and monthly repayments in case of loss of earnings through accident or sickness. Some also offer unemployment or redundancy insurance.

On the face of it the idea of insuring your debts is a good one. Some building societies now insist that repayment mortgages are covered by a mortgage protection policy. At

least it ensures that if the breadwinner dies, the family has a roof over its head. But looking at the terms, costs and details of some of the insurance offered with personal loan schemes it appears that borrowers should think hard before committing themselves to insurance premiums as well as the monthly loan repayments.

I was, for instance, rather stunned to receive the Access Loan Plan along with last month's statement. It offered loans of up to £5,000. In the brochure was a large heading "Insurance can cover you if you lose your job" beneath which it stated: "We have arranged for special insurance to cover your requirements if you are unable to work because of illness or accident... if you die the outstanding loan will be repaid in full."

Fine until you look at how much the insurance premium adds to the cost of the loan. For instance, if you borrow £1,000 for a year the interest charge is £115.87, but the insurance premium will be £53.39 - almost half as much again. If you borrow £5,000 over three years the interest will come to £1,777 and the insurance premium will be £385.70.

While the repayment tables show exactly how much interest and insurance premium will be paid on the loan, Access states that the insurance will automatically be included unless you indicate otherwise on the application form.

It is inertia selling, one of the best known and most effective ways of selling. Even Access agrees that its insurance is pretty costly.

According to a marketing department manager, it is the high cost of obtaining redundancy and unemployment protection that makes it so expensive. It is true that this is a very expensive insurance buy and maybe with the current high rates of unemployment people think it is worth it.

But what the Access brochure does not tell you is that the unemployment, unlike the sickness and accident protection, pays the monthly repayment for only a maximum of 12 months. You find that out, presumably,

when you have signed up for your loan and insurance.

Not all lenders offer the same insurance. National Westminster Bank and Barclays, for instance, offer death cover and protection against loss of earnings through accident or illness but not employment or redundancy cover. NatWest charges £36 for insurance on a £1,000 loan for a year and £335 for £5,000 borrowed over three years. Barclays charges slightly more.

The insurance premiums are phased monthly. Midland Bank, on the other hand includes automatic death benefit in the cost of the loan. It then offers an optional sickness and unemployment insurance. This costs £54 for a £1,000 loan for a year and £367 for a £5,000 loan over three years. Again the unemployment cover is only for one year. It is clear from figures that the cost of insuring short term borrowing can be ridiculously expensive. According to the Midland this is because the initial setting-up costs are taken in the first year.

What the customer has to ponder is: Do you really need this cover? It is tempting to think that all insurance is a good thing. For instance, do you really need to insure your loan in case you die? Most people who have had an endowment



mortgage for a number of years will find that the sum assured will more than pay off their home loan and could well be enough to cover subsequent borrowing as well. Ask the insurance company what the endowment policy is now worth. The value of the unemployment cover seems questionable if it lasts for only a year.

And married couples where both partners work should look very hard at precise terms of personal loan insurance. The Midland loan insurance, for instance, comes into effect only if both earners are jobless.

National Westminster, on the other hand, sells a policy that appears to pay out when the

major income earner is ill or unemployed. It is worth checking on this. Perhaps the final point is to consider who benefits from these loan insurance schemes. Clearly the individual customer who is insuring his or her personal liability. But isn't it also a very cheap way for the banks or lender to insure business risk? And the insurance covers not just repayment of the capital but also of the interest that would have been paid on the personal loan over the years if repayments had continued. So the lender's profit, not just the capital, is actually protected by the policy. And the policy is all paid for by the customer.

Maggie Drummond

## CONTAINERWORLD SERVICES LTD HIGH INCOME PLAN

# 17%\*

PER ANNUM

PAID ANNUALLY (Monthly/six monthly terms available)

Minimum Investment £2,400

Containerworld Services Ltd based in Southampton manage and operate a first class world wide container leasing service to the shipping industry and specialists in providing investors with a High Fixed Income with security.

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\*On investments of £4,250, from 5-15 years.

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25 Queen's Terrace, Southampton SO1 1BG  
Tel 0703 335322 or our London Office  
- 01 499 5501 24 hr service

Please send me by return details of your High Fixed Income Plan.

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ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Tel No. (work) \_\_\_\_\_ (home) \_\_\_\_\_

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## WALL STREET

PRICES & COMMENT

THE TIMES  
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## What more do you want, high interest?

Apart from cheque book, cheque card, cash card, direct debits and standing orders wouldn't it be nice to have a current account which pays interest? Of course it would.

Well, that's exactly what we can give you. It comes in the shape of a Royal Bank of Scotland Premium Account.

An account that has all the payment facilities of a current account and pays money market rates of interest.

Premium Accounts are available to individuals and to clubs, associations, charities and professional firms for clients' funds. (Cheque cards and cash cards are normally available only to individuals.)

The minimum sum required to open a Premium Account is £2,500. For full details fill in the coupon.

**The Royal Bank of Scotland plc**

Registered Office: 41 St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, EH2 2YE.  
Registered in Scotland No. 46419.

### INTEREST RATE PER ANNUM

Subject to variation. Interest paid quarterly.

Gross Rate	Compounded Annual Rate	Net Rate
12.75%	14.10%	9.53%

\*The Compounded Annual Rate shown in the table above is calculated to take account of the quarterly compounding of interest and rounded up to show what the rate is worth to Royal Bank Customers.

Yes I do want to know more. Please send full details of your Premium Account to me at the following address:

Name (Mr/Ms/Mrs) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Business Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send the completed coupon to The Royal Bank of Scotland plc, Premium Accounts, FREEPOST, 24 Lombard Street, London, EC3N 3DR (No stamp required) T 114/14

## The Norwich Union Life Insurance Society

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of this Society will be held at the Society's Offices, Surrey Street, Norwich on Tuesday 14 May 1985 at 11.45 a.m. for the transaction of the following business:-

To receive and consider the Reports of the Directors and Auditors and the Accounts for 1984.

To elect Directors in the place of those retiring.

To appoint Auditors and to authorise the Directors to fix their remuneration.

Dated this 12th day of April 1985

By order of the Board

D P LISTER

Secretary

Surrey Street

Norwich



# 17.15%

PA GROSS  
Guaranteed Income for 2 years

- \* Income paid half-yearly
- \* First class security
- \* Invest from £3,600
- \* Limited offer
- \* Ask about special tax concessions

If you have money to invest, we are able to offer you one of the most attractive container investment opportunities currently available.

Remember, this is a limited offer, so write or phone for details now.



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85a Cherry Orchard Road, Croydon, Surrey CR0 6BE. 01-681 5625

Send to: London Investment Office Ltd., London Investment House,  
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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: (Business) \_\_\_\_\_ (Private) \_\_\_\_\_

Amount available £ \_\_\_\_\_

(Please include your telephone number)

The new improved Money Management account works wonders for your money.

And it does it all very simply.

INVESTMENT	INTEREST RATES*	% net	% gross equivalent
£500 and over	10.00	14.29	
Under £500	8.25	11.79	

The higher the balance, the higher your interest. With immediate access.

With no penalty.

You'll find that Money Management

offers as good a combination of high interest and instant access as any other major building society.

Your Money Management account can provide even more to make your money work harder for you.

You can use this account to make regular mortgage and investment payments into your other National & Provincial accounts. And you may, if you wish, apply for an Access credit card to make bill paying a lot simpler without the need for cash or cheques.

Just fill in the coupon or call into your local branch for details. It's the best way to manage your money.

\*All interest rates quoted are correct at the time of going to press but are subject to variation. Gross equivalent rates apply to basic rate taxpayers. Interest is credited once a year.

I'm interested in managing my money better with National & Provincial

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

POSTCODE \_\_\_\_\_

I/We enclose a cheque for £ \_\_\_\_\_ to be invested in a Money Management account.

Signature(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Please send further information ☐

Peter M Harrad FCMA FCSI  
National & Provincial Building Society  
FREEPOST, Bradford, West Yorkshire, BD1 1BR.

TAL 13-4

# National & Provincial

## Everyone's local building society

Assets of £4400m · Member of the Building Societies Association · Over 1400 branches and agents.



FAMILY MONEY/7

## Guaranteed loan for all?

A new mortgage scheme from Time Assurance guarantees a home loan to would-be house buyers.

Aimed specifically at the first-time buyer, the unique guarantee ensures that members of the scheme will have the facility to purchase the house of their choice at precisely the time they are ready to buy, says the publicity material.

But the guarantee is so hedged around with qualifications that most borrowers would get precisely the same, if not a better deal by going straight to the building society.

First, you cannot borrow more than three times your gross income (the usual multiple applied by most building societies to first-time buyers).

Second, if the amount of the loan is more than 80 per cent of the valuation you have to take out an indemnity policy (as most building societies will require).

Third, the loan must be secured by a Time Assurance low cost endowment policy to

cover the total amount of the loan.

This is probably the biggest drawback of all. Time Assurance has not been in the with-profit endowment field very long, and the top performers are always the long-established life offices which have had years to build up profits from which to pay bonuses.

Time, for example, quotes a monthly low cost endowment premium of £30.50 to cover a £20,000 loan for 25 years on the life of a 28-year-old. This is estimated to produce a total sum at maturity of £25,600.

Compare this with the leaders in the field, which are projecting a total payout of well over £50,000 for the same monthly premium.

We all know that these are only estimates, but companies like Norwich Union, Provident Mutual, Scottish Amicable and London Life take a generally conservative view of their likely performance - yet still regularly appear in the top ten of the performance charts.

## Be sure of holidays without hassles

Going on holiday? Do not forget your insurance. One of the best packages available is National Westminster Bank's "Travel Protector", which offers up to £1 million of medical fees insurance and £3,500 cancellation cover (the two sections under which you are most likely to make a claim) for as little as £9.95 per person for a two-week holiday in Europe - £25 worldwide.

The policy also provides £15,000 personal accident cover, £1,000 baggage (including personal money), £500,000 third party liability, £150 against failure of public transport, and £60 for travel delay. It is open only to customers of NatWest.

Another "best buy" is American Express's year-round cover which provides permanent medical fees insurance when you travel abroad of up to £75,000 for an annual premium of £35. The Amex "Centurion" scheme provides protection for

Amex cardholders and their immediate family.

For an extra £15 you get cancellation cover of up to £2,000, loss of luggage (including ski equipment) up to £1,000, loss of personal money up to £500, and £500,000 worth of third party liability cover.

Motorists taking the car abroad can obtain year-round emergency vehicle assistance covering roadside call out fees, towing to the nearest garage, plus emergency repairs, sending out of spare parts, hotel accommodation if the carholder's family is delayed by breakdown, accident, illness or theft, car hire if repair is not practical within 24 hours, the costs of returning the vehicle to Britain when repairs cannot be carried out abroad; vehicle recovery if the carholder is not able to drive because of an accident; storage charges for the vehicle; costs of bringing the family home.

Amex cardholders and their immediate family.

For an extra £15 you get cancellation cover of up to £2,000, loss of luggage (including ski equipment) up to £1,000, loss of personal money up to £500, and £500,000 worth of third party liability cover.

Motorists taking the car abroad can obtain year-round emergency vehicle assistance covering roadside call out fees, towing to the nearest garage, plus emergency repairs, sending out of spare parts, hotel accommodation if the carholder's family is delayed by breakdown, accident, illness or theft, car hire if repair is not practical within 24 hours, the costs of returning the vehicle to Britain when repairs cannot be carried out abroad; vehicle recovery if the carholder is not able to drive because of an accident; storage charges for the vehicle; costs of bringing the family home.

Another "best buy" is American Express's year-round cover which provides permanent medical fees insurance when you travel abroad of up to £75,000 for an annual premium of £35. The Amex "Centurion" scheme provides protection for

Amex cardholders and their immediate family.

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## FAMILY MONEY MARKET

**Banks**  
Current account - no interest paid.  
Deposit accounts - seven days, Barclays 12.75 per cent, Lloyds 13 per cent, NatWest 13 per cent, Midland 12.75 per cent, National Girobank 11 per cent. Fixed term deposits £10,000-£24,999, 1 month 8 1/2 per cent, 3 months 8 1/2 per cent, 6 months 8 1/2 per cent, National Westminster, 1 month 11.625 per cent, 3 months 11.125 per cent, 6 months 10.75 per cent, Midland Bank. Other banks may differ.

**National Savings Bank**  
Ordinary accounts - interest 6 per cent on £500 minimum on deposit for whole of 1985, otherwise 3 per cent. Investment Account - 12.75 per cent interest paid without deduction of tax, one month notice of withdrawal, maximum investment £20,000.

**National Savings Income Bond**  
Min. investment £2,000 - max. £50,000. Interest - 12.75 per cent variable at six weeks notice - paid monthly without deduction of tax. Repayment at 3 months notice. Penalties in first year.

**National Savings 2nd Index-linked certificates**  
Maximum investment £10,000, excluding holdings of other issues. Return tax-free and linked to changes in the retail price index. Supplement of 0.25 per cent per month up to October 1985 paid to new investors; existing holders receive a 3.0 per cent supplement between October 1984 and October 1985 4 per cent bonus if held full five years to maturity. Further 4 per cent after 10 years. Value of Retirement Issue Certificates purchased in March 1980.

**National Savings Yearly Plan**  
A one year regular savings plan converting into four-year savings certificates. Minimum £20, Maximum £100 a month. Return over five years 9.25 per cent - tax free.

**National Savings Deposit Bond**  
Minimum investment £100 maximum £50,000. Interest 12.75 per cent variable at six weeks notice.

**£157.45 including bonus and supplement**  
March RPI 382.7. (The new RPI figure is not announced until the third week of the following month).

**National Savings Certificates**  
30th issue. Return totally free of income and capital gains tax, equivalent to an annual interest rate over the five-year term of 8.85 per cent, maximum investment £5,000.

**Guaranteed Income Bonds**  
Return paid net of basic rate tax, higher rate taxpayers may have a further liability on maturity.  
1 yr Credit & Commerce, (underwritten by New Direction Finance) 10.1%; 2 yrs Liberty Life 9.25%; 3 yrs General Portfolio 9.8%; 4 yrs General Portfolio 10.5%; 5 yrs City of Glasgow 9.67%.

**Local authority town hall bonds**  
Fixed term, fixed rate investments, interest quoted gross (basic rate tax deducted at source reclaimable by non-taxpayers). 1 yr Leicester, Minimum sum £500 10% per cent 2/3/4 yrs, Bristol, Minimum sum £1,000 11 1/2 per cent 5/6/7 years, Lambeth, minimum sum £1,000

credited annually without deduction of tax. Repayment at three months notice. Half interest only paid on bonds repaid during first year.

**Foreign currency deposits**  
Rates quoted by Rothschild's Old Court Ltd. Reserves 0461 26741. Seven days notice is required for withdrawal and no charge is made for switching currencies.

**Building societies**  
Ordinary share accounts - 8 1/2 per cent. Extra interest accounts usually pay 1 to 2 per cent over the ordinary share rate.  
Foreign currency deposits. Rates quoted by Rothschild's Old Court Ltd. Reserves 0461 26741. Seven days notice is required for withdrawal and no charge is made for switching currencies.

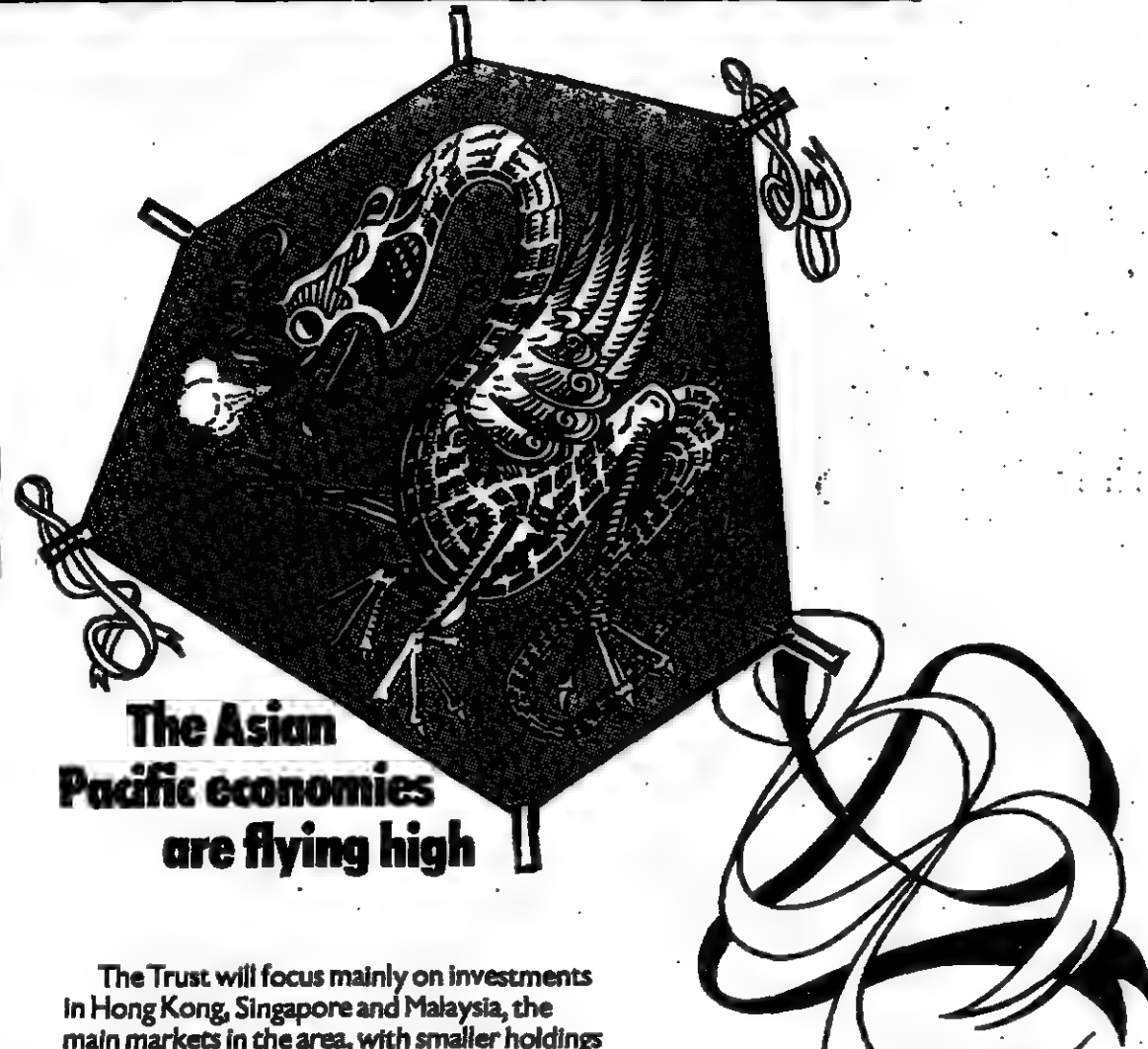
**11 1/2 per cent 8/9/10 yrs Working**  
Minimum sum £500.  
Further details available from: Chartered Institute of Public Finance & Accountancy, Loans Bureau (038 6361 between 10am and 2.30pm) see also on Prestal no 24808.

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## A NEW TRUST AIMED AT CAPITAL GROWTH

# ABBHEY ASIAN PACIFIC TRUST

An Authorised UK Unit Trust



The Asian Pacific economies are flying high

Abbey's exciting new Trust offers an opportunity to invest in the fastest developing economic region in the world - the Asian Pacific.

- The aim of the Trust is capital growth from a diversified, actively managed portfolio of shares in companies quoted on stockmarkets in the Asian Pacific region, excluding Japan.
- New investment opportunities are rapidly opening up there, and the emergence of the People's Republic of China as a major market is likely to ensure the region's continued rapid economic development.
- The countries in which the Trust will be invested have, over the past 10 years, consistently outpaced Japan, the US and the UK in economic growth.

The Trust will focus mainly on investments in Hong Kong, Singapore and Malaysia, the main markets in the area, with smaller holdings in Taiwan, South Korea, Thailand and the Philippines. Limited exposure to India, Indonesia and Sri Lanka may also be introduced if suitable opportunities arise.

In view of the volatility of the various stockmarkets, a key element in the investment policy is a willingness to 'switch' actively between the markets which are individually 'high risk'.

Although the risk to the investor is reduced by the spread of holdings, the Trust is mainly suitable for investors wishing to augment a long-term growth portfolio.

The price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up.

Limited have been appointed investment advisers to the Trust. With offices throughout the region they are leading Far East specialists and have detailed knowledge of the local stockmarkets and personal contact with the managers of candidate companies.

**How to invest**  
To invest now, simply return the coupon to us with your cheque, minimum £500, and share in the prosperous future of the Asian Pacific. The estimated current gross yield is 2.50% based on the current offer price (as at 9 April 1985) of 51.9p.

**Advised by major Far East specialists**  
London stockbrokers, Vickers de Costa

### General Information

You can buy or sell units on any business day. A written confirmation will be sent on receipt of your instructions, and a Unit Certificate issued within 6 weeks. Payments for re-purchased units are normally made within 10 days of receipt of your re-purchased Unit Certificate. Prices and yields appear daily in the Financial Times. An annual charge of 5% is included in the offer price. An annual charge of 0.75% (the Trust Deed permits maximum charges of 7% initial and 2% annual) will be made. Remuneration is paid to qualifying intermediaries: rates on request. Accumulation Units only will be issued.

Income will be accumulated and reflected in the price of units. The accumulation date is 30 November; unitholders at that date will receive on the following 31 January an income tax voucher and Managers' Report. The Trust Deed contains provision for the Managers to invest in Traded Options subject to the limitations laid down by the Department of Trade and Industry. The Trust is a Wider Range investment. Offer not open to residents of the Republic of Ireland.

## TO INVEST - COMPLETE THE COUPON

Application Form - To: Abbey Unit Trust Managers Limited, 1-3 St Paul's Churchyard, London EC4M 8AR (Reg. Office) Telephone: 01-236 1833.

I/We enclose a cheque for £ (minimum £500) payable to Abbey Unit Trust Managers Ltd, for investment in Accumulation Units of Abbey Asian Pacific Trust at the offer price ruling on receipt of this application.

I am/We are over 18 years of age.

Signature(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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Source: IMF International Financial Statistics plus Hong Kong and Taiwan Government Statistics.

● The recent agreement between China and Britain over Hong Kong confirms China's positive attitude towards the West and towards free enterprise.

**Portfolio Composition**  
The Asian Pacific region, as defined for the Trust, includes all the economies in South East Asia with the exception of Japan which, because of its size, merits separate treatment.

## ATHLETICS

## Britons take to roads in quest for victory

By Pat Butcher

The list of road races involving British athletes in the next three weeks is like a Who's Who of those celebrated Brits - Bob Hope - Dorothy Lamour films.

Veronique Marot, an exotically named Miss Lamour, takes the road to Hiroshima this morning, favourite to win the first women's world marathon. Geoff Smith defends his title in the eighty-ninth Boston marathon on Monday. Sebastian Coe and Steve Ovett, not as funny but equally famous as Hope and Dorothy, take the road to Madison, Wisconsin tomorrow for the southern road relay.

The humour comes from the unlikely source of Mike McLeod, appearing in Battersea Park this afternoon. McLeod is known as a fairly good character. The humour is the more noteworthy, since a further injury to the one he has had for a month will keep him out of the world marathon. McLeod is known as a fairly good character. The humour is the more noteworthy, since a further injury to the one he has had for a month will keep him out of the world marathon.

McLeod originally won the Olympic bronze in the 10,000m at Mexico City in 1968, but was subsequently disqualified.

Steve Jones, the title holder, and Dave Lewis and Eamonn Martin, who won the 10,000m at the 1984 World Cup in London, are also in the field. Jones, who has been missing somewhat longer than McLeod's medal, was the Olympic bronze in the 10,000m at Mexico City in 1968, but was subsequently disqualified.

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Steve Jones



Football: Wembley should be filled with purple haze after today's FA Cup semi-finals

Luton put up a threadbare veil against the coming gale

Fine old master increases in value

Liverpool gain inspiration from their rivals on Merseyside

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

By Clive White

By David Miller

Wherever the winds of fate may care to blow this afternoon, the national stadium should be filled with a purple haze on FA Cup final day. May 18, a forecast that embraces goals of up to 70 miles per hour sweeping across the country cannot logically include a victory for Luton Town, the odd ones out among the last four.

One end of Wembley should be draped in the blue of the holders, Everton, who take on Luton at Villa Park. The other will be painted in the red of Liverpool or Manchester United, involved in a tie at Goodison Park so finely balanced that it could be decided by the flick of a boot.

Although David Pleat has shrouded his Luton line-ups in a veil of tactical mystery, he cannot disguise their fundamental inadequacy. Nicholas and Preece, two of the four players he has bought to lift them clear of relegation, are Cup-tied and their absence in midfield weakens their challenge in the area that is Everton's strength.

Turner, who scored their eventual winner against Watford in a fifth round tie spread across three evenings in March, will fill one of the vacancies. Either Daniel or Parker will be promoted to the other. "Whatever Howard Kendall plans," Pleat says, "he will not know too much about how my team will play." Nor, probably, does he care.

The goalless draw in Munich on Wednesday extended Everton's unbeaten run to 20 games and their belief is not so solid as Villa Park. Although Shedy may not have recovered from an ankle ligament trouble, Richardson is a striking alternative, as Southampton discovered recently, and their pattern, so simple and so effective, will be maintained.

Gray, missing against Bayern, returns to lead their prolific attack, but the most influential figures will be Bracewell, so industrious in winning the ball, and Reid, so composed in using it. Even if Luton do find a chink in Everton's defensive armour, they must still beat Southampton, arguably the most dependable goalkeeper in the land.

Both sides, curiously enough,

were four minutes away from defeat earlier in the competition and both were rescued unusually by their centre-halves. Mcounfield and Foster, the latter aged 36 and on the edge of suspension, No one can deny Luton, victims of thuggery in the sixth round, their day of potential glory, but the only point in their favour is the law of averages.

If Everton must lose sooner or later, so Liverpool will expect to beat United in the cup. The only time they have done so in seven attempts was back in 1921, after a replay. Recent defeats include the semi-final of 1979 at Goodison Park, after another replay, as well as the League fixture at Anfield, a fortnight ago.

Ron Atkinson recalls Bailey and Whiteside, who missed United's first defeat in 11 games at Sheffield Wednesday, and admits that "there is a hair's breadth between us, one goal will probably settle it again." If so, one of two Welshmen is likely to pierce some 50,000 English hearts.

Rush, who scored seven so far, failed only in Liverpool's 7-0 victory over York City, and Hughes are the most dangerous of predators. Wark and Robson will restrict each other's contribution as usual, as will the formations of the two clubs, so similar in style. They will play underneath the swirling wind.

Dalglish, spared another potentially shuddering collision with Moran, holds the key to a door that he has never unlocked and Liverpool have waited 11 years to reopen. United must guard him vigilantly if they are to avoid the fate that befell them the last time they visited this ground. Everton beat them 5-0.

Freight Rover draw

Brentford meet the winners of the Bournemouth-Wallasey tie in the Southern Area semi-finals of the Freight Rover Trophy draw made yesterday.

DRUGS North: Bolton Wanderers or Derwenton v. Mansfield Town; York City or Lincoln City v. Wigan Athletic; South: Brentford or Millwall v. Newport County or Bristol City; Bournemouth or Walsall v. Bradford.

Brown will say he is sorry

Ken Brown (right), the Norwich City manager, has been asked by the Football Association to explain remarks made about the referee after last week's defeat at Arsenal. Brown felt that Charlie Nicholson should have been sent off after elbowing John Dwyer in the face. The Scot was booked and then scored Arsenal's first goal in the 2-0 win 10 minutes from time.

Brown now accepts he "went over the top" and will be writing to the FA to apologise. He said: "I honestly felt I was handled wrongly, but perhaps I was a bit strong with some of the things I said."

United embattled at Tynecastle

By Hugh Taylor

Dundee United are confident that they can end Aberdeen's hopes of taking the Scottish Cup, a historic fourth time in a row by winning the semi-final at Tynecastle today. "It is our last chance of securing an honour this season," their manager, Jim McLean said. "Our intention is to go deeper than those of Aberdeen."

There is little between the teams. On form, they play the most attractive, not to say determined, football of anyone in the country. Both are resolute in defence, commanding in midfield, and sharp in attack. But much will depend on whether Black is passed fit to play for Aberdeen, who appear to be League and Cup double. The spring-heeled forward, the most venomous header of the ball in Scotland, was injured last week and a decision on his fitness will not be made until after the kick-off.

Celtic appear to have an easier task in the other semi-final. On all known form, they should be far too powerful for Motherwell of the first division. But such is their respect for their opponents, that they have decided to complete their preparations at their favourite hideaway, Seamill, on the Ayrshire coast, where they have so often plotted the downfall of more glamorous opponents. "We have to underline that fact that complacency cannot be allowed to creep into our play," David Hay, their manager, said. "After all, Motherwell have a fine 'cup record, having scored eight goals for the loss of just one."

Notwithstanding, Celtic players have vast experience of Hampden finals at the Reunion Centre here, in which they have faced a Motherwell side who have so many young players.

Enfield try to end dismal run

By Paul Newman

Enfield, who lost 2-0 at home to Westlondon last week in the first leg of their FA Trophy semi-final, go into today's second leg hoping to end one of the worst runs in the club's modern history.

Since beating Maidstone United in the Trophy quarter-finals a month ago, Enfield have lost seven matches in succession. In addition to the setback against Westlondon they have been knocked out of the Bob Lord Trophy and suffered five goals in four matches, which has left them with little chance of winning the championship, from which they were clear favourites less than four weeks ago.

Injuries and illness have been at the heart of their problems, for up to six players have been unavailable in recent weeks. Savage has been ruled out of today's game and Barrett, King, Irons and Ashford are doubtful. Eddie McCuskey, the manager, said yesterday: "It's very frustrating to see so much of the good work we did in the first two thirds of the season being undone. Having a settled side in the last few weeks would have made all the difference to our season."

Boston United, who secured a goalless draw in last week's first leg at Albioncham, are favourites to go through from the other semi-final. They will have to improve on their league form, however, having taken only four points from their last seven games.

Spurs must win to stay in the race

Tottenham Hotspur are acutely aware that nothing less than a win will do when they attempt to revive their fading championship hopes at Luton today. They are eight points behind the leaders, Everton, and have played a game more, but their manager, Peter Shrieves, refuses to concede that they are a long way from the title.

Roberts and Givens both tested yesterday and Spurs will be unchanged as long as the two players suffer no reaction.

Leicester, beaten in their last four matches, have recalled Peaks to the midfield after a month's absence. He replaces Banks.

As Arsenal are without their England forwards, Martin and Woodcock against Nottingham Forest at Highbury, Allinson is recalled to form a new attacking partnership with Nicholas. Forest could also be without two England forwards, Dwyer is not expected to recover from a hamstring strain and Birles will have a fitness test on a knee injury.

Sunderland must decide whether to risk Hodgson in attack and timing, or commit 5-4 and defend in defence for the relegation battle at Coventry City. Both have recovered from injury but are not match fit. Sunderland will definitely be without Daniel (broken nose) and Gayle (hamstring).

Coventry have recovered from the influenza virus which forced them to postpone their last two games, but Kellie has an ankle injury, so Buttersworth is recalled at centre half.

Waddle of Newcastle misses his

Limit to what Rush can be offered

At the end of last season Liverpool were still a million in the black, compared with Everton, who were in the red by the same amount. It was a record for sources up to the 31. Fagan will be reluctant, however, to release Rush. It is to Liverpool's credit that they have always attempted, as Busby did, to release players where it mattered, the pitch, so long as the books balanced. Yet there is an ultimate limit to what they can offer Rush, with maximum ticket prices at £4.40 compared with £20 in Italy.

Compromise will probably be to release Rush at the end of next season, which would mean a year for him, after the World Cup, in which he would have to serve a year's qualifying. Everton may claim the title in their final match of the season at Goodison against their neighbours, but if Rush remains on loan, he will be the player in the odd half-dozen neutrals in the city.

Everton strive for wider appeal

A side-effect of Everton's success has been to increase Anfield's attendance. Between 1974 and 1984 Liverpool gates dropped from 46,000 to 31,000. This season, despite relative problems in the League, they have climbed back to 34,000, to stay ahead of Goodison, where there has been a dramatic rise of 50 per cent from last season's depressed 20,000.

What Everton, as yet, have not recaptured is the appeal of Liverpool which once was theirs. In the Twenties and Thirties it was provided by the immortal Dean, the Shites it was Alex Young, who carried for a while that mesmerizing

Eye on the future: Reid aims for Wembley

people in the game let me down," he said.

It was then, though, that his problems really began, in the shape of injuries. Exactly two years after the earlier valuation, Kendall took a chance worth £60,000 after Colin Harvey, his coach and no mean judge of skill, had a hard look at him. "It was a gamble, I admit," Reid says. "Luckily for both of us it was not."

His ideal working relationship with Paul Bracewell in the centre of midfield has been vital to the reawakening of the Goodison giant for the first time since the playing days of Kendall and Harvey. "Bracewell should be in the England squad," he was the sole of the century," said the man who by that token must be the sale of the millennium. But there is also a

Clark hopes to spot the talent

By Sydney Friskin

Ivan Clark, the England Under-21 team manager, has special interest in the two-day junior divisional tournament starting today on artificial turf at Loughborough. He has his last chance to spot talent for the junior world cup tournament at Vancouver from August 10 to 24.

Several England players who took part in the junior world cup qualifying tournament in Rome last year have passed the age limit for Vancouver, which explains Clark's problem.

Chris Gladman, who is almost certain to be in the junior world cup team, is playing at Loughborough for East's juniors, for whom goalkeepers Bowring and Seddon are playing. Nine countries are expected to be represented, including Uganda, Hong Kong, Canada and Nigeria, and the formation of the association will have the advantage of creating a bigger voting block in the International Handball Federation for the Commonwealth.

The British League Premiership will be contested by Brentwood 72 and Great Danes from the southern division and Liverpool and EK '82 from the north.

Whichello saves six match points

By Rex Bellamy

Tennis Correspondent

Nature turned off the sprinkling system long enough for the Prudential British junior hard court championships to make up lost time on the shale courts of "outer" Wimbledon yesterday. Two rounds were played during a sunny but windy and initially cool day.

The increased competitive stress took its toll emotionally as well as physically: only one player seemed to reach the singles finals has done so, and the exception, Richard Whichello, the top seed in the boys' event, saved six match points in recovering from 2-5 down in the third set to beat Chris Peet 4-6, 7-6, 7-5.

Both are members of the Lawn Tennis Association squad, whose coaching and travelling costs are subsidized by Lening, the construction company. Each player should be encouraged by yesterday's match: Whichello because he kept his act together when everything seemed to be going wrong and Peet because he could not have come closer to confounding the seedings.

In the tie-break Peet led 5-4 with two services to come and in the third set he had those six match points when serving at 5-3. In adversity, Whichello made a lot of noise but produced the right shots.

In the final Whichello will play Austin Brice, seeded sixth, whose composure and soundness emphasized Danny Sapsford's comparison

McEnroe loses to the golfing Swede

From a Special Correspondent, Dallas

McEnroe's American compatriot, in the second round of the United States Open, ended McEnroe's unbeaten record this year with a 6-4, 7-6, 8-3 victory. Mayotte produced the best play of his life to defeat Wilander 6-3, 6-1, 7-4.

Mayotte missed Nystrom today for a place in the final: the other semi-finalists will be the winners of the matches between Aaron Erickson (United States) and Jimmy Connors (United States) and Stefan Edberg (Sweden) and Ivan Lendl (Czechoslovakia).

Nystrom aged 32, plays with a two-handed backhand and a content to exchange shots from the baseline. McEnroe, lacking touch and timing, committed 54 unforced errors against his opponent's 15, a step couldn't get going. I was a step slow all evening," McEnroe said. "It was like I had glue on my sneakers."

Mayotte's victory over the fourth seed was the product of a ferocious serve and volley game. "I served well and I didn't make many mistakes on my volley," said the 24-year-old who usually produces his best form at Wimbledon. "It's probably the best match I've ever played."

QUARTER-FINALS: J. Nystrom (Swe) vs J. McEnroe (USA) 6-4, 7-6, 8-3; A. Erickson (USA) vs J. Connors (USA) 6-3, 6-1, 7-4.

Chance for Hull KR to secure title

By Keith Macklin

With clubs digging deep into their reserve strength, and players skulking from strains of every kind, Hull Kingston Rovers have a fine opportunity to clinch the Slalom Lager championship this weekend. Tomorrow they go to St Helens for a match between the two clubs, which have been in a hand, and victory at Knowsley Road would allow them to lose one of those games and still retain the championship.

Rovers have been fortunate in having reasonable gaps between games while other clubs have been in the middle of forbidding schedules. They will be without the suspended Wakeford and Hogan at St Helens, but have ample reserve strength. St Helens are much more likely to miss their strong defensive half-back, Peters.

Abused and overused it has to do it all

SIDELINES

Gordon Allan

I am writing this without reference to authorities such as Fowler. It would only confuse the issue to consult them on it. They tend to be bled, and it, more than most words, is a matter of taste. You either like it or you don't. You take it or leave it. I take it, and I don't care who knows without it. You

It is an honored word, and to be proud of it now and again is an endearing weakness - if it is a weakness. From "It came upon the midnight clear, and all that it means, to 'It was such a gift, Liverpool the lead in the seventh minute." It is a hard-earned little fellow and, to its credit, it stands up well to it. It can take anything the backs hand on. Long may it continue to do so, even in its lapses into fashionable gibberish as "Getting it all together."

"Wales still have it all to do," the headline proclaimed. It never mind Wales, but it is all to do for Great Britain. Without it, this article could not have been written - in which case, I can hear you saying, it has a lot to answer for. If it has proved nothing else, it has proved that you can't know it. You can't know it, you can't know it, but you can't know it. Put that in your pipe and smoke it.

Commonwealth to confer

The possibility of a Commonwealth championships will be one of the items discussed at the inaugural meeting of the Commonwealth Handball Association in Solihull from April 26 to 29 (Paul Harrison writes). Nine countries are expected to be represented, including Uganda, Hong Kong, Canada and Nigeria, and the formation of the association will have the advantage of creating a bigger voting block in the International Handball Federation for the Commonwealth.

Contest of scullers wide open

By Jim Ralton

Last Saturday the Tideway belonged to Oxford and Cambridge in a side-by-side race from Putney to Mortlake. Today the tide is in the hands of the scullers. Single file from Mortlake in Putney in the scullers' head of the river Oxford achieved a record 10 wins in a row last Saturday. Today Chris Brice might have made it his tenth successive head title, but he has abdicated. It was to have been a battle of an old and distinguished warrior, Brice, against a brilliant young star, but Brice has been

Baillic, with a gold, a silver and three bronze medals in Olympic, world and European championships, has not entered Stephen Redgrave, an Olympic gold medal winner last year in coxed fours, and sculling their apparent, entered too late.

So today's race is wide open. The new champion is expected to emerge from the lead-scullers, Smith (Nottinghamshire County), Melvin (London), Buckham (Leander) and Phillips (London).

Sapsford: putting Heron to flight (Photograph: Chris Cole)

ive deficiencies in both qualities. Brice won 6-1, 6-3, in a quarter-final Sapsford, who had his sixteenth birthday only 10 days ago, had come back from 2-6 and 6-3 down to beat Aaron Erickson 20 months his senior and proportionately taller. This was a fine performance by little Sapsford.

In the girls' final the unseeded Lisa Gould will play Jane Wood, seeded fourth. Both had remarkable wins yesterday. Miss Gould, who had already disposed of the top seed, Suzanne Mair, came back from 1-6 and 5-5 down to beat the 14-year-old Scot 6-3, 6-4, 6-4. In the third set, Miss Wood had two break points for a 5-3 lead. The other Miss Wood, Jane, beat







Heat fails  
Cool  
teacher  
irit

# Christian Schad can give Piggott a happy return

Christian Schad can give Lester Piggott a flying start to what may be his last English season as a jockey by winning the 2,000 Guineas Trial Stakes at Salisbury today. The measure of confidence that Ben Hanbury has in his selection, who won with remarkable ease at Doncaster last month, can be gauged by the fact it was his first intention to go for the Premio Parioli in Rome tomorrow, the race which the Italians regard as their equivalent of our 2,000 Guineas.

The change of heart came about because Hanbury was advised earlier this week that he must expect firm ground in Italy. That, as far as Christian Schad was concerned, was not acceptable because his only race on similar ground last year resulted in a sore shin and a lengthy lay-off.

With the going very much to his liking at Salisbury, Christian Schad should be difficult to beat, especially as he will be as hard as nails after that race at Doncaster, where he strolled some unchallenged. On soft ground, even on furlongs at Salisbury, will take some getting. Christian Schad has proved already that it is well within his range, whereas Primo Dominie has yet to do so.

Christian Schad belongs to Charles St George. Earlier in the day Piggott will also don the familiar black and white racing silks that belong to his long-standing friend to ride Bofoema in the B.B.A. 1,000 Guineas trial. In this instance, though, it is that which he is favoured by Walter Swinburn riding Dafayna for Michael Stoute and to Aga Khan.

At Ascot last September Dafayna had the marginally more experienced Bofoema seven lengths behind in fifth place when she won the Blue Seal Stakes on her debut. On 10lb better terms Bofoema clearly has a good chance of gaining her revenge, yet I prefer Dafayna who proved that she could cope with soft ground when she won the second of her two races last season at York in October with her head on her chest.

This looks the right day to follow the fortunes of the Aga Khan and his Newmarket trainer because they also appear to have an outstanding chance of winning the Holstein Diat Pils Maiden Stakes at Beverley with Kazaroun (nap).

As befits a son of the dual Arc winner Alleged, especially one of a half-sister to the Prix du Cadran winner Karkour, Kazaroun was given plenty of time to mature as a two-year-old last season, when he was restricted to only one race at Sandown in the autumn, one in which he performed creditably in view of



Dafayna, Michael Stoute's unbeaten filly, who carries plenty of confidence in today's Salisbury 1,000 Guineas Trial

# Gold Crest to take trial in his stride

Despite the probability of heavy ground, Vincent O'Brien has elected to run his 2,000 Guineas favourite, Gold Crest, in preference to his other Guineas possibility, Father Matthew, in the Gladness Stakes over seven furlongs at the Curragh this afternoon.

Gold Crest, who won both his starts at the Curragh last year with notable ease, has only six opponents and two of them are older horses.

The five-year-old, arrested, who finished second to Sarab at Goodwood in October, and Final Thatching, whose career has taken the unusual path of an early season run at both two and three years.

He did not run thereafter but Jim Bolger has thought it worthwhile persevering with him and he may make up into a decent four-year-old.

Sun Valley, a disappointment behind Leading Comet at Phoenix Park last Saturday, tries again but the best of the other three-year-olds should be Sapor, who upset the hot favourite, Alshenay, last weekend.

There should, however, be no real danger to Gold Crest as he attempts to follow in the footsteps of Lomond and El Gran Sor, who both used this race as a stepping stone to success in the Guineas.

Landbrokes report substantial support for Gold Crest for the 2,000 Guineas and now offer only 5-2 (from 3-1).

Aviance, the second favourite for the 1,000 Guineas, will go straight to Newmarket without a preliminary race. Dan O'Brien, her trainer, said yesterday, "She worked very well this morning and I am delighted with her progress."

Northern Pride (Bruce Raymond) and Sultanah (Tony Murray) are the British challengers for the £34,246 Premio Parioli, the Italian 2,000 Guineas, at the Capannelle, Rome, today.

At Talag (Tony Murray) will have a long way to go to beat the (Richard Hills) as pacesetter when he contests the £8,219 Grosvenor Press der Stadi Gelsenkirchen at Gelsenkirchen-Horst tomorrow.

From Desmond Stoneham, Paris

The runner-up in the Prix de la Grotte may be the promising Pointrina who won her only race in 1984.

The Aga Khan's Moukhar is to have a simple task in the group two Prix Greffulhe which will probably only be contested by five horses. Expected to be in fine fettle by Alain de Royer-Dupre, Moukhar was a winner of his only two races during 1984. He ended that year with an impressive four length victory in the Critérium de Saint-Cloud.

Lester Piggott scored on his only mount, Al Arz, in the Prix de Colonges, at Maisons-Laffitte yesterday. The winner was trained by André Fabre, for whom Piggott is now riding whenever available, and was his second winner from seven mounts in France this season.

### SALISBURY

[Tevised: 1.30, 2.0, 3.40]

GOING: Good to soft

raw advantage: 5f-7h runners best

3.00 MAIL ON SUNDAY THREE YRS OLD SERIES HANDICAP (22.71: 1m) (3 runners)

1. 2011-12 HONEYMAN (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
2. 2011-13 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
3. 2011-14 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11

### 3.30 CRANBROOK HANDICAP (22.200: 5f) (12)

1. 2011-12 HONEYMAN (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
2. 2011-13 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
3. 2011-14 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11

### Floyd beats a hasty retreat

David Elsworth's Floyd, winner of the Queen's Prize at Kempton last Saturday, fell his attempt for a quick double yesterday.

Floyd was in fifth place coming into the home straight but made no further progress and finished out of the places behind Clive Britain's Lobkowitz.

Lobkowitz, a 13-2 chance, who has been swimming in Britain's routine pool, was persuaded by Willie Carson, who reported that the six-year-old seemed hesitant when he hit the front. However, once Lobkowitz decided to go for home he streaked away and won very comfortably by eight lengths.

The success followed Britain's double at the Sunbury track on Easter Monday and the enthusiastic trainer said: "I shall now aim him at the City and National Handicap at the Epsom Spring meeting."

The new owner, Moorgate Man, strongly supported from 9-4 to 6-4, was an early winner for Pat Eddery in the Polytechnic Maiden Stakes.

The horses' chances, riding for the Newmarket trainer, Ron Boss, always had the colt in a prominent position and they drew clear from halfway to beat 20-1 chance Hobbes by five lengths.

At Epsom, the owner said: "We expected Moorgate Man to win well. He's been working superbly at Newmarket, and the word went round that Ron Boss had a very good colt, but we've been trying to keep the name of our horse quiet. We sent Ron Boss up to Beverley today with my other horse Musical Mystery but still everyone at Kempton seemed to know and it didn't matter to get any more."

At Beverley the former invalid Chaplain Club, who suffers from a trapped nerve in his withers, proved that he can still have a winning day when beating Hootigan by three lengths in the Witherses Handicap Stakes.

### BEVERLEY

GOING: soft

Draw advantage: 5f-1m, high numbers best

2.0 KIPINGCOOTES SELLING STAKES (3-y-o: £332: 7f) (15 runners)

1. 2011-12 HONEYMAN (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
2. 2011-13 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
3. 2011-14 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11

### Salisbury selections

By Mandarini

30 Sudden Impact, 2.0 Dafayna, 2.30 Cranbrook, 3.5 Duch Flight, 3.40 Christian Shock, 4.10 Godfrey Blake.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

30 Honeyman, 2.0 Dafayna, 3.40 Christian Shock, 4.10 Godfrey Blake.

Michael Seely's selection: 1.30 Honeyman.

### 3.40 SALISBURY 2,000 GUINEAS TRIAL STAKES (Group III: 3-y-o & G: £11,110: 7f) (8)

1. 2011-12 HONEYMAN (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
2. 2011-13 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
3. 2011-14 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11

### 3.00 HOLSTEN DIAT PILS MAIDEN STAKES (3-y-o: £1,254: 2m) (10)

1. 2011-12 HONEYMAN (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
2. 2011-13 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
3. 2011-14 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11

### 3.30 SOUTH CAVES HANDICAP (3-y-o: £1,378: 5f) (13)

1. 2011-12 HONEYMAN (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
2. 2011-13 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
3. 2011-14 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11

### ASCOT

Tevised: (BBC1) 2.0, 2.35, 3.15

GOING: Good to soft

LILY TREE NOVICE HURDLE (25.321: 2m) (21 runners)

1. 2011-12 HONEYMAN (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
2. 2011-13 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
3. 2011-14 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11

### 3.50 TRILHILL HURDLE (22.833: 2m) (9)

1. 2011-12 HONEYMAN (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
2. 2011-13 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
3. 2011-14 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11

### 4.00 ALPINE MEADOW HANDICAP HURDLE (25.244: 3m) (7)

1. 2011-12 HONEYMAN (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
2. 2011-13 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
3. 2011-14 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11

### 4.30 ALFRED MCALPINE CONSTRUCTION HANDICAP HURDLE (22.186: 2m 80y) (13)

1. 2011-12 HONEYMAN (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
2. 2011-13 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
3. 2011-14 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11

### 5.00 ALFRED MCALPINE HOMES NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (22.225: 2m 40y) (8)

1. 2011-12 HONEYMAN (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
2. 2011-13 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
3. 2011-14 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11

### 5.25 ALFRED MCALPINE HOMES NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (22.225: 2m 40y) (8)

1. 2011-12 HONEYMAN (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
2. 2011-13 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
3. 2011-14 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11

### 5.50 ALFRED MCALPINE PROPERTY NOVICE HURDLE (21.130: 2m) (15)

1. 2011-12 HONEYMAN (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
2. 2011-13 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
3. 2011-14 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11

### 6.00 ALFRED MCALPINE PROPERTY NOVICE HURDLE (21.130: 2m) (15)

1. 2011-12 HONEYMAN (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
2. 2011-13 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
3. 2011-14 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11

### 6.30 ALFRED MCALPINE PROPERTY NOVICE HURDLE (21.130: 2m) (15)

1. 2011-12 HONEYMAN (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
2. 2011-13 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
3. 2011-14 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11

### 6.50 ALFRED MCALPINE PROPERTY NOVICE HURDLE (21.130: 2m) (15)

1. 2011-12 HONEYMAN (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
2. 2011-13 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
3. 2011-14 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11

### 7.00 ALFRED MCALPINE PROPERTY NOVICE HURDLE (21.130: 2m) (15)

1. 2011-12 HONEYMAN (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
2. 2011-13 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
3. 2011-14 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11

### 7.30 ALFRED MCALPINE PROPERTY NOVICE HURDLE (21.130: 2m) (15)

1. 2011-12 HONEYMAN (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
2. 2011-13 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
3. 2011-14 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11

### 7.50 ALFRED MCALPINE PROPERTY NOVICE HURDLE (21.130: 2m) (15)

1. 2011-12 HONEYMAN (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
2. 2011-13 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
3. 2011-14 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11

### 8.00 ALFRED MCALPINE PROPERTY NOVICE HURDLE (21.130: 2m) (15)

1. 2011-12 HONEYMAN (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
2. 2011-13 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
3. 2011-14 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11

### 8.30 ALFRED MCALPINE PROPERTY NOVICE HURDLE (21.130: 2m) (15)

1. 2011-12 HONEYMAN (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
2. 2011-13 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
3. 2011-14 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11

### 8.50 ALFRED MCALPINE PROPERTY NOVICE HURDLE (21.130: 2m) (15)

1. 2011-12 HONEYMAN (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
2. 2011-13 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11  
3. 2011-14 LILY TREE (M. J. Fisher) M. Ryan 7-11 P. Robinson 11

Phone pro  
lots inquiry

Today's point-to-point



## Law Report

April 13 1985

## Restraining disposal of foreign shares

X Bank Ltd and Another v G and Others

Before Lord Justice Cumming-Bruce and Mr Justice Hollings

[Judgment delivered April 3]

The court has jurisdiction to make interlocutory orders which extend to disclosure of information about the operation of foreign companies and trusts and restraints upon the disposal of shares or other interests in such foreign companies, the Court of Appeal has held in *X Bank Ltd and Another v G and Others*.

Mr Gabriel Moss for the defendants, Miss Elizabeth Glosier for the plaintiffs.

LORD JUSTICE CUMMING-BRUCE, delivering the judgment of the court, said that the pleadings in an action for deceit and/or compensation for breach of constructive trust disclosed *prima facie* a strong case of deceit and breach of fiduciary duty against the first defendant.

It also disclosed an elaborate and most ingenious scheme brought into operation at the instance of the first defendant whereby his personal assets were organised in such a way that they were held in foreign and English companies and trusts in a manner that effectively concealed his true beneficial interest in English assets.

At that stage the plaintiffs' case that the first defendant brought into existence an elaborate structure of corporations and trusts and operated them in order to make it impracticable for the liquidators of the plaintiff companies to reap the fruits of any legal proceedings they might take was necessarily founded upon inference from such incomplete material as the liquidators had been able to obtain.

Upon the plaintiffs' application, Sir Neil Lawson made a series of orders whereby the ordered discovery by interrogatories of an unusually extensive and detailed character, to be answered by the first defendant, and imposed injunctions against him restraining him from disposing of shares in foreign companies and of his rights, interests and benefits under the terms of trusts created in English assets, or to shares in foreign English companies, or from procuring or directing disposal or charge of English assets by any such company or trust.

The terms of the orders were more far reaching than was usual. The judge observed that it was perfectly plain that certain of the trusts were devised to conceal the assets of the first defendant and his relatives and his activities were to be regarded with the greatest suspicion.

The first defendant appealed and sought an order that the judge's order be set aside. He challenged the jurisdiction to make the orders and pleaded that the judge was oppressive and an unwarranted extension of the jurisdiction to make *Mareva* injunctions and of the power to order discovery in aid thereof.

On his behalf it was submitted that it was only if it could be established that the legal structure of the companies in which he had an interest was a complete sham that the court exercising its jurisdiction under section 37 of the Supreme Court Act 1981 could pierce the corporate veil and look behind the legal entitlement to the English asset in question.

On behalf of the plaintiffs it was submitted that in the case of any corporation or trust the court was satisfied that the legal structure had some reality but nonetheless as a vehicle over which the defendant exercised substantial or effective control, the court was empowered to make *Mareva* injunctions and of the power to order discovery in aid thereof.

In their Lordships' view the authorities revealed that the court would use its power to pierce the corporate veil if it was necessary to achieve justice irrespective of the legal efficacy of the corporate structure under consideration.

The evidence sufficiently established that over a period of years the first defendant had brought into existence the sophisticated and intricate network of interrelated English and foreign companies and trusts as a mechanism through which he could at will dispose of his English assets.

Although the order brought the court was exceptional in its character, it was exceptional because the facts were exceptional. There was ample evidence to justify those orders.

Solicitors: Kenneth Beavis & Co, 11th Floor, 11, Finsbury Square, London EC2A 3BN.

Impersonal service

11th Samuel & Co Limited v Littler

The High Court had power under Order 45, rule 7(1) of the Rules of the Supreme Court to dispense with personal service of a prohibitory order endorsed with penal notice.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Kerr, Lord Justice Parker and Sir David Cairns) so held when giving reasons on April 3 for dismissing an appeal by the defendant against an order committing him to prison for nine months for contempt of court.

LORD JUSTICE PARKER said that, although when the present Order 45, rule 7 was introduced in 1967 prohibitory orders were made subject to the requirements of personal service and penal notice, the existing power to dispense with personal service was carried over and substituted service specifically provided for. The words used were unlimited and there was no reason to restrict them although the power should only be exercised in cases of deliberate evasion of service.

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